

## localplan

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**From:** Alick Hay <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 06 November 2020 10:30  
**To:** [REDACTED] localplan  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Duns Castle Estate - Local Biodiversity Site

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

CAUTION: External Email

I am responding to your email of 31 October regarding the proposed adoption of part of the Estate as a Local Biodiversity Site on SBC Local Development Plan.

I am not certain from your email as to what stage the proposed LDP as got but it appears that it is already out for consultation generally. We do not feel that it is acceptable that you should do so without consulting us first. The area of the proposed site is all commercial woodland and as such Long Term Forest Plans have been in place for many years, approved by the Forestry Commission Scotland, so we do not see what this designation is going to bring to the party. Many years ago we were designated as a SSSI but this was removed about 1980 on the grounds that we were not important enough to warrant it. One of the reasons that Scottish Wildlife Trust gave up the reserve here was similar.

As to the area of the proposed designation:- you have included an area close to the Castle which we designate as private; the boundary at the southern end of the lake should be the lake edge from the island on the east side and the road (in white) on the west side. Also the western part of the [REDACTED] is not part of the Estate but belongs to [REDACTED]. The unmarked march crosses the dean as an extension of the line of the wood known as [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely  
Alexander Hay

[REDACTED]