

Buckinghamshire Council
Planning Service
King George V House
King George V Road
Amersham
HP6 5AW



October 2024

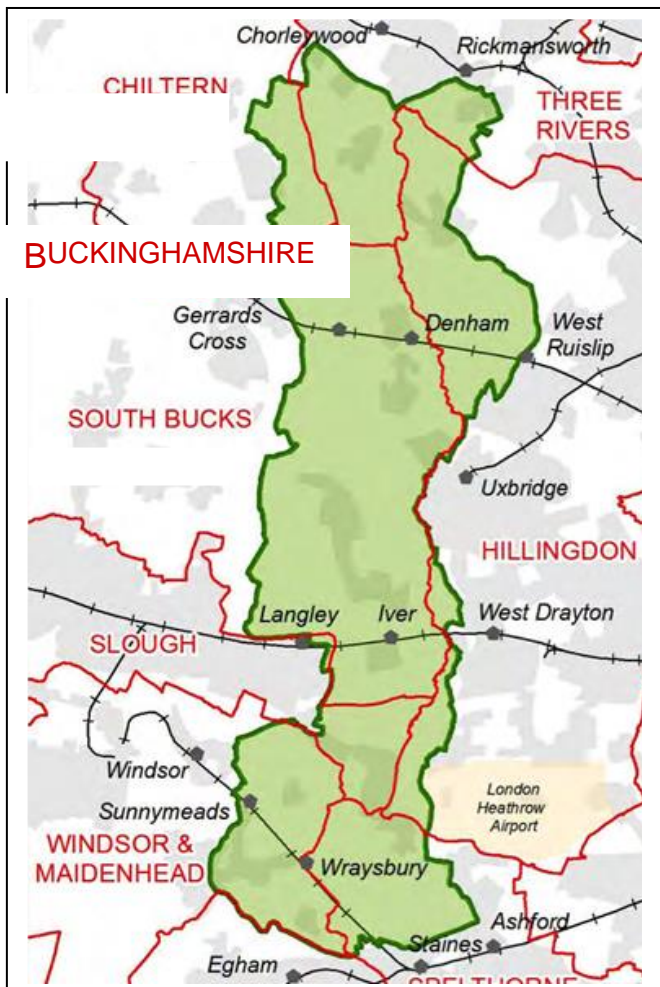
Dear Sir/Madam

PL/24/2751/FA
Access road to Thorney Business Park

This response is from and on behalf of The Colne Valley Regional Park

The Colne Valley Regional Park was founded in 1965 when local authorities – including Bucks County Council – showed great foresight in agreeing to work together to preserve and enhance this precious area for recreation and nature conservation.

It is supported by nearly 100 member organisations including local authorities, businesses, residents' associations, environmental charities and user groups. Groundwork South acts as the Park's managing agent.



The Colne Valley Regional Park has six objectives:

<https://www.colnevalleypark.org.uk/whats-special/>

Landscape

The Colne Valley Regional Park (CVRP) covers six local planning authorities. As a result, the valley is rarely, if ever, considered at a landscape scale.

The creation of a Green Infrastructure Strategy <https://www.colnevalleypark.org.uk/green-infrastructure-strategy-downloads/> for the Colne Valley Regional Park aims to bring the green and blue on the map to the forefront of planning policy and decisions, and feature the landscape of the Valley as a whole, rather than from the parochial perspective of its various council boundaries.

These boundaries are an administrative convenience – they don't exist as real barriers to people and wildlife. The Crane Valley has been added to this strategy to provide a truly landscape-scale picture of the area.

This cross-border approach is entirely consistent with Green Belt policy in the National Planning Policy Framework.

The Colne Valley Regional Park is a Community Trust funded by local authorities and donations from corporate sponsors and members of the public. To mitigate the development if approved, we would wish to be involved in any S106 agreement in order that benefits accrue to the CVRP consistent with national planning policy.

This application is effectively the facilitator for more development on the north side of Iver station and should ideally provide easy off-road pedestrian and cycle access from Iver village to the station. The application should include a commitment to provide a pedestrian and cycleway towards the canal and preferably a separate bridge across the canal to connect with existing rights of way to facilitate cycle and pedestrian access between the Village and the station. This would conform with policy IV15 of the Neighbourhood Plan particularly a(iii) and benefit the recreational opportunities within the Colne Valley Regional Park as per CP 9 of the Local Plan. Incidentally no mention is made of the Colne Valley Regional Park in the planning statement or the need to conform with local planning policy in this regard. It is considered that to deliver the policy requirements in both the Local and Neighbourhood Plan, a S106 agreement should be required.

Regards,

J. Griffin

Jane Griffin
Trustee