

## PANSHANGER PARK

### TARMAC PROPOSAL FOR EXTRACTION OF LOWER BROADWATER

The Lower Broadwater comprises valuable habitats for a wide variety of species, including the water vole and kingfisher which are protected species under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Water voles are nationally rare and a priority conservation species.

HMWT is concerned about any action which could be to the detriment of the ecology of Panshanger Park. The Trust were aware of the potential extraction of the Lower Broadwater and advised Tarmac of the need to have an appropriately qualified ecologist undertake surveys, and plan mitigation and appropriate habitat restoration, and to obtain a Natural England licence. The role of Natural England in granting the licence is to approve the working practices and mitigation proposals.

HMWT has not been consulted on the results of the surveys or the mitigation proposals produced by Tarmac's ecological consultant, and were unaware of Tarmac's intention to progress with the extraction. We have been party to the recent consultation on the Baseline-Plus Management Plan, however the proposed extraction of the Lower Broadwater has not been included in this Plan.

We have asked Tarmac for clarification on what the formal process will be going forward with regard to the proposed extraction and to see the consultant's surveys and mitigation proposals.

Should this progress further we will expect Tarmac to not simply meet the legal process but to take into account the implications for the Lower Broadwater and the wider Park and to seek a net gain for wildlife.



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