

**Core Policy WCS12 – Nature and Historic Conservation (~~Biodiversity & Geodiversity~~)**

~~(Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and National Nature Reserves (NNR) will be safeguarded from inappropriate waste management development.)~~

Planning permission for waste management development ~~that would have a significant adverse impact on the integrity, character and/or setting of sites and features of national or international importance within or outside a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) or National Nature Reserve (NNR)~~ will only be granted where it can be demonstrated that:

- The development would not conflict with the conservation, management and enhancement of the site unless the harmful aspects can be satisfactorily mitigated; ~~or and~~
- The benefit of the development clearly outweighs the impacts that the proposal would have on the key features of the site; ~~and~~
- ~~The proposal includes adequate measures to mitigate adverse impacts or as a last resort proportionately compensate for or offset any loss of conservation value and damage to a nature or heritage asset supported by an appropriate evaluation of the significance of the asset; and~~
- The proposal complies with other relevant policies of the development plan; and
- In the case of a SSSI, there would be no broader impact on the national network of SSSIs.

**Comment [A1]:** This sentence seems to be repeated elsewhere in the policy. Is it necessary?

Local nature and historic conservation designations will also be safeguarded from inappropriate development and planning permission will only be granted for development affecting such designations where it can be demonstrated that the impact of the development can be satisfactorily mitigated ~~or and~~ that the benefit of the development clearly outweighs any impact.

Development proposals will be required to assess their impact on the natural environment and make a contribution to local nature conservation targets to ensure gain for net biodiversity.

Proposals that incorporate beneficial biodiversity or geological features into their design and layout will be favourably considered particularly where the proposal would result in a positive contribution to a Strategic Nature Area (SNA)  
~~as identified on the Nature Map for Gloucestershire.~~

~~Where proposals for major developments are within or close to Strategic Nature Areas (SNAs) they will be required to assess and make an appropriate contribution to nature conservation targets in these areas.~~

