

From: Harris, Matthew (Ecology Officer)

Sent: Friday, February 27, 2026 13:22

To: Burrows, Lydia (Planning Officer) <Lydia.Burrows@newport.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: 26/0069

Lydia the hedgerow in question and the areas of woodland that it connects to are likely to be of ecological value for their habitats and habitat connectivity. Under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, NCC has a duty to seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity, and in doing so to promote the resilience of ecosystems, in the exercise of its functions. Therefore the justification for removal of this feature would need to be strong. In this instance, I do not accept the Applicant's claim that removing this hedgerow and replacing it with a simple post and rail fence will in any way reduce flytipping at this site. Nor will it prevent unauthorised access as is claimed on the application form, as the hedgerow is fairly dense and replacing it with a three-bar post and rail fence will make this access easier, not more difficult.

I gather this hedge is adjacent to an entrance point to the woodland, which the Applicant may well wish to make more formal and secure. I would not object to this, but I do not see that removal of almost 40 metres of hedge is necessary in order to formalise the existing entrance point.

Therefore I object to this application as it does not accord with policy GP5.

Matt