

Date: 19 May 2021



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Bracknell Forest Borough Council

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BY EMAIL ONLY

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Dear Simon,

Appropriate Assessment – Standing Advice Update

This letter comprises a standard consultation process for all Appropriate Assessments made in accordance with the Bracknell Forest Council strategy for avoiding and mitigating the impacts of relevant development on habitat sites.

Natural England (NE) is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

In accordance with Regulation 63(5) of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) (as amended) *'The competent authority must for the purposes of the assessment consult the appropriate nature conservation body and have regard to any representations made by that body within such reasonable time as the authority specifies'*.

As of 19th May 2021, we can confirm that NE has no comments to make on Appropriate Assessments which are carried out by Bracknell Forest Council for planning applications which conclude no adverse effects on the integrity of habitats sites due to measures being secured through legal agreement and put in place in line with those set out in accordance with the following policies, guidance and evidence:

- Policy NRM6 of the South East Plan (Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area)
- Policy EN3 of the Bracknell Forest Borough Local Plan
- Policies CS4, CS5 and CS14 of the Bracknell Forest Core Strategy Development Plan Document
- Policies SA1-SA9 of the Bracknell Forest Site Allocations Local Plan (2013)
- Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area Supplementary Planning Document (April 2018)
- Warfield Supplementary Planning Document (February 2012)
- Amen Corner Supplementary Planning Document (March 2010)
- Habitats Regulations Appropriate Assessment Bracknell Forest Site Allocations Local Plan Draft Submission (November 2011)
- Habitats Regulations Assessment Pre-Submission Bracknell Forest Local Plan (March 2021)

In the absence of these measures being secured NE will object unless a full consultation on the Appropriate Assessment is carried out.

NE wishes to continue to be consulted on other applications such as those for new SANGs, large schemes, applications that could lead to potential air pollution impacts on habitats sites and development of supplementary planning documents.

Yours sincerely

Marc Turner
Thames Solent Team
Sustainable Development