

Dear Mr L Oliver,

Our ref: 384960

Your ref: APP/21/01267

Thank you for consulting Natural England on the application mentioned above. We have reviewed the application and have provided our comments below.

As per our previous responses to other reserved matters applications at the site Natural England recommends that a Biodiversity Mitigation and Enhancement Plan (BEMP) or equivalent be produced and agreed with by the Hampshire County Council (HCC) Ecologists.

The HCC Ecologist should agree the exact scope of the BEMP; however, Natural England strongly encourages the consideration of the broader landscape context as the site is of importance as an ecological corridor for protected species. We also strongly encourage the BEMP to reflect the site's location in the former Forest of Bere landscape, which is significant for Bechstein bats.

Please note we have not assessed the application and associated documents for impacts on protected species. Natural England has published [Standing Advice](#) on protected species. Standing Advice is a material consideration in the determination of applications in the same way as any individual response received from Natural England following consultation.

Please note that provided the HCC Ecologists are satisfied with the submitted BMEP and the full implementation of the plan is secured by any permission, no further consultation with Natural England on this aspect of the proposal is required. If a BMEP cannot be agreed with the applicant, then Natural England should be re-consulted on the proposals to reconsider our advice.

Please let me know if you have any queries or need any further information.

Many warm regards,

Joshua Smith (BSc, MRes)

Sustainable Development Adviser

Hampshire Chalk Catchments

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