

11 March 2019

Spatial Planning
Economic Development and Planning
County Hall
Bythesea Road
Trowbridge
Wiltshire
BA14 8JN

Ann Skippers MRTPI
Independent Examiner
Ann Skippers Planning

Cc Corsham Town Council

Dear Ann,

Examination of the Corsham Neighbourhood Plan: Update to HRA

Further to your letter last Summer and following the adoption of the Conservation of Habitats and Species and Planning (Various Amendments) (England and Wales) Regulations 2018, please find attached a new Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) for the Corsham Neighbourhood Plan and an associated note regarding the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report.

The updated HRA determined that eleven policies in the submission version of the Corsham Neighbourhood Plan had the potential to give rise to significant effects in relation to the Bath and Bradford on Avon Bats SAC and were taken forward to appropriate assessment. Following appropriate assessment, it was concluded that there would be no adverse effects on the Bath and Bradford on Avon Bats SAC, alone or in-combination with other plans and projects. Therefore, no changes were suggested to the submitted Corsham Neighbourhood Plan. Natural England were consulted on the updated HRA and concluded on 8 March 2019:

'I can confirm that Natural England concurs with the conclusion of the above assessment namely that the NDP will result in no adverse effects on the Bath and Bradford on Avon Bats SAC, alone or in- combination with other plans and projects.'

The note relating to the submitted SEA Environmental Report produced by AECOM in February 2018 has been prepared to confirm that as no changes to the Corsham NP are proposed as a consequence of the updated HRA the original SEA Environmental Report remains valid.

With these documents I hope we are now in a position to resume the examination of the Corsham NP and would be happy to discuss a timetable for this process with you.

The 2019 Habitat Regulations Assessment for the Corsham Neighbourhood Plan and the associated note regarding the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report will be made available on the Council's web site as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Carolyn Gibson
Spatial Planning Manager - Economy
Economic Development and Planning
Wiltshire Council