

**From:**  
**Sent:**  
**To:**  
**Cc:**

**Subject:**

**Attachments:**



**Importance:** High

Dear Ms Aziz

I am writing to you in regards to the above appeal.

Regulation 63 (3) of the Habitats Regulations 2017 requires that 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. Having had regard to the characteristics of the proposed development the Inspector considers that an appropriate assessment is necessary.

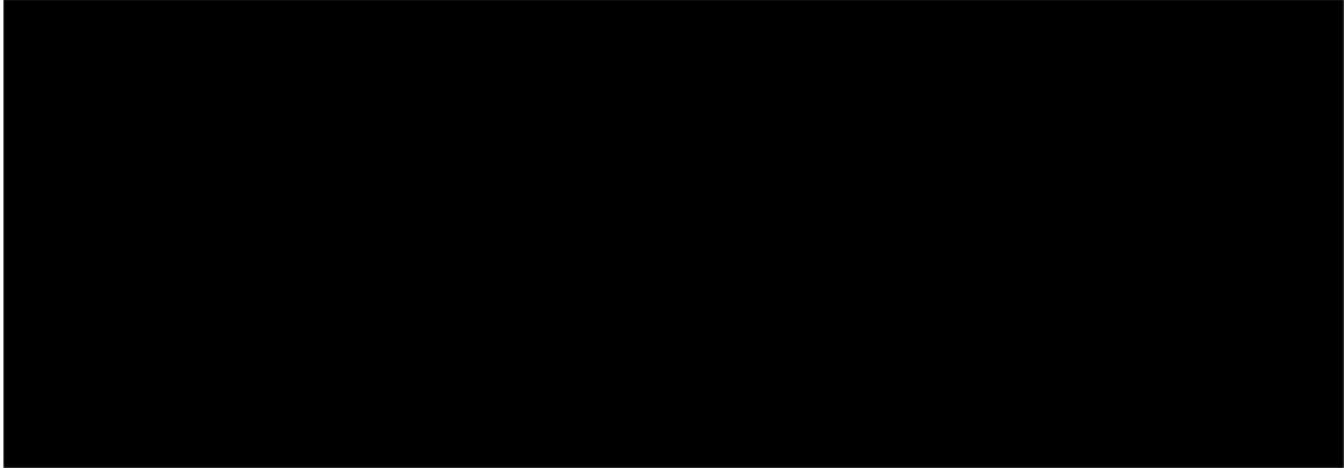
In order to seek your views as the appropriate nature conservation body as to the likely impact from the proposed development to New Forest SPA, SAC and Ramsar sites and their qualifying features, the Inspector seeks your views on the following:

1. Can Natural England confirm that the European Sites and qualifying features identified within the Appellant's information are comprehensive and correct? If not can you please indicate the additional site(s) or features should also be addressed.
2. To what extent does Natural England agree with the conclusions reached by the appellant's consultant Ecosa in the information they have provided?
3. Does Natural England consider that the proposed development would impact upon the integrity of the European Site and its qualifying features?
4. If so, and in the absence of an agreed strategy for authorities within the Zone of Influence around the New Forest, Is Natural England content that a financial contribution to be directed at mitigation measures set out within the New Forest Habitats SPD is sufficient to avoid an adverse impact to the integrity of the European Sites and relevant features? If you are not content then please specify your reasons and provide details of any additional measures you consider are necessary.
5. The proposed Habitats Mitigation Contribution will be secured by way of the attached unilateral undertaking. Can Natural England confirm if it is content that this adequately secures the deliverability of the measures.
6. Any other relevant matters that you wish to make.

The deadline for your consultation response is 11th of November 2021. Your response should be sent preferably electronically to **tim.salter@planninginspectorate.gov.uk** or by post (at the address below) marked for the attention of Tim Salter.

Kind Regards

Mark Boulton  
Operations Manager – Plans, Inquiries and Costs



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