

Maral Miri
Hampshire Country Council
Elizabeth II Court
1st Floor West
Winchester
Hampshire
SO23 8UD

SENT VIA EMAIL, ONLY

31st March 2022

Our Ref: P0634/21
Your Ref:

Dear Maral

NEWGATE LANE (LAND EAST OF), FAREHAM, HAMPSHIRE PO13 0SB – RESPONSE TO ECOLOGY COMMENTS

Further to the ecology comments provided on 8th March 2022 we have reviewed and set out below our response to the comments made in relation to the Ecological Impact Assessment. Habitats Regulations Assessment matters are being addressed by Tetra Tech. We have responded to the various points in the order they were raised for ease.

We would agree that securing a Reptile Mitigation Strategy through condition would be appropriate to identify the exact location and detail of the receptor site and the detail of translocation exercise to be undertaken. This would be supported by appropriate up to date surveys within two years of that strategy.

At the time of preparation of this letter breeding bird surveys are currently being undertaken and are likely to be completed by the end of June/early July. We would agree that to accurately assess the potential impact of the scheme on breeding birds that this would need to be completed and would be submitted for consideration.

The bat activity surveys will also be undertaken between April and July 2022 to ensure that a full set of data is available to assess the potential impact of the proposals on foraging and commuting bats. The scheme currently includes the retention of the main foraging and commuting corridors and proposes a sensitive lighting strategy along with enhancements for roosting. Therefore, whilst it is acknowledged that the survey data is required for certainty, it is unlikely that the results would significantly alter the impact assessment or the overall mitigation, compensation and enhancements required.

We understand that it would currently be difficult to confirm the lighting for the scheme given its outline nature. However, we would recommend that a condition is secured as part of the decision to secure this. We would recommend a condition which would be similar to the following:

Preliminary Ecological Appraisals • Protected Species Surveys and Licensing • NVC • EclA • HRA • Management Plans
Habitats • Badger • Bats • Hazel Dormouse • Birds • Reptiles • Amphibians • Invertebrates • Riparian and Aquatic Species

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“Prior to the commencement of development an assessment of the ecological impacts of the proposed lighting strategy will be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The lighting shall be designed in accordance with the measures set out in ECOSA’s Ecological Impact Assessment.”

We understand that the applicants are able to commit to 20% of all new buildings being fitted with Vivara Pro Build in bat features or other similar features.

We trust that this provides further information in response the comments received but please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned should you wish to discuss.

Yours sincerely
ECOSA Limited

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Chilcott', written in a cursive style.

Richard Chilcott MSc MCIEEM
Principal Ecologist