

In generally supporting the policy, although NE commented (in terms of proposed development at the Deer Park) to the effect that this has the potential to reduce the foraging habitat available to Greater Horseshoe Bats from the Bryanston SSSI, a nationally important site for this European Protected Species. In particular, NE took the view that the loss of open fields in the vicinity of the roost could reduce the local feeding opportunities for juvenile bats which may adversely affect juvenile survival. NE argued that the protection of key foraging habitat for the bats from the Bryanston SSSI is a key environmental constraint that needed to be added to the list of spatial aspects the strategy must address.