

Appropriate Assessment for Application ref : XXX

In accordance with *People Over Wind & Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta* (Case C-323/17), Dorset Council has concluded that, in the absence of mitigation the above application will have a likely significant effect on the following European wildlife sites (including Ramsar sites where relevant), arising from identified impact pathways. This document provides an appropriate assessment to check and confirm that avoidance and mitigation measures can be secured to prevent adverse effects on the integrity of the European sites identified below.

This project level appropriate assessment has been undertaken to check that the adopted:

- Dorset Heathlands Planning Framework 2015 - 2020 SPD
- Nitrogen Reduction in Poole Harbour SPD,

provide the necessary measures to prevent adverse effects on site integrity. It is confirmed that adherence to the relevant SPD is applicable to this project proposal, provides the necessary measures to remove identified adverse effects and can be adequately secured through the use of a Section 106 legal agreement and/or the Community Infrastructure Levy.

Designated site	LSE Y/N	Adverse effects caused by:
Dorset Heathlands SPA	No	The proximity of urban development and its related effects including recreational pressures etc which arise from this development, the proposal requires measures to avoid and mitigate the effects. The impact of residential development on these sites and the suitability and robustness of avoidance and mitigation measures has already been considered as set out in the adopted Dorset Heathlands Planning Framework 2015 - 2020 SPD, and its underpinning evidence base and plan level HRA work.
Dorset Heathlands Ramsar	No	
Dorset Heaths SAC	No	
Dorset Heaths (Purbeck & Wareham) & Studland Dunes SAC	No	
Poole Harbour SPA	Yes	Nutrient enrichment arising from within the harbour catchment from a number of sources acting in combination, including that arising from the increasing population related to additional residential developments, the proposal requires measures to avoid and mitigate the effects. The impact of residential development on these sites and the suitability and robustness of avoidance and mitigation measures has already been considered and are set out in the adopted Nitrogen Reduction in Poole Harbour SPD January 2017, and its underpinning evidence base and plan level HRA work.
Poole Harbour Ramsar	Yes	

Designated site affected	Confirmation that adverse effects on integrity are avoided for <u>all</u> features with avoidance/mitigation secured by adherence to the SPD Y/N
Dorset Heathlands SPA	n/a

Dorset Heathlands Ramsar	n/a
Dorset Heaths SAC	n/a
Dorset Heaths (Purbeck & Wareham) & Studland Dunes SAC	n/a
Poole Harbour SPA	Yes
Poole Harbour Ramsar	Yes

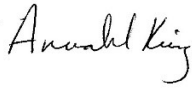
Having concluded that the application will have a likely significant effect in the absence of avoidance and mitigation measures on the above European sites, this document represents the Appropriate Assessment undertaken by Dorset Council as Competent Authority in accordance with requirements under Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2019, Article 6 (3) of the Habitats Directive and having due regard to its duties under Section 40(1) of the NERC Act 2006 to the purpose of conserving biodiversity. Consideration of Ramsar site/s is a matter of government policy set out in the National Planning Policy Framework 2019.

The authority has concluded that the likely significant effects arising from the proposal are wholly consistent with and inclusive of the effects detailed in the supporting policy documents, and that the proposal is wholly compliant with the necessary measures to prevent adverse effects on site integrity detailed within the documents:

Dorset Heathlands Planning Framework SPD	n/a
Nitrogen Reduction in Poole Harbour SPD	Yes

These documents and the avoidance/mitigation measures set out are supported by an extensive and tested evidence base which has been scrutinised at various levels from planning appeals, through the appropriate public consultation process and is supported by Habitats Regulations Assessments prepared for Examination in Public whilst drawing up the current adopted Local Plan.

It can therefore be concluded that there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the designated sites identified above.

Signed.....


Dr Annabel King, Senior Ecologist, Dorset County Council