

Date: 28 August 2013  
Our ref: Christchurch and East Dorset Core Strategy  
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**BY EMAIL ONLY**

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Dear Sir, Madam,

**Other Matters : Policy VTSW4**

Natural England wishes to submit the following statement concerning the above Policy. Natural England has met with the Planning Officers and site owners to discuss this allocation. However to date no biodiversity survey has been carried out nor has there been a proposed SANG layout/function statement prepared for consideration by Natural England and the authority.

Natural England advises that whilst there is potential for a SANG of a suitable scale to be secured in this location, Natural England is not able to confirm at this stage that the Inspector may conclude that its delivery is likely to be secured as is required under the Habitats Regulations 2010. This casts some doubt on the allocation of the new neighbourhood.

The Inspector may wish to discuss this matter under Matters and Issues 3 or 5 should no SoCG be forthcoming.

Yours sincerely

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