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BY EMAIL ONLY

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Dear Nikki Duke

Norton St Philip Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 Consultation

Thank you for consulting Natural England on the Norton St Philip Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 Consultation.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development. Please see below our advice regarding designated sites.

Habitats Regulations Assessment - Bath and Bradford on Avon Bats SAC & Mells Valley SAC
The neighborhood plan allocates a site in the consultation zone of the Bath and Bradford on Avon Bats SAC and the Mells Valley SAC. Natural England notes that an appropriate assessment of the plan has been undertaken in accordance with regulation 63 of the Conservation of Species and Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended). As competent authority, it is your responsibility to produce the HRA and be accountable for its conclusions. We provide the advice enclosed on the assumption that your authority intends to adopt this HRA to fulfil your duty as competent authority.

The appropriate assessment concludes that it can be ascertained that the plan will not result in adverse effects on the integrity of any of the sites in question. Having considered the assessment, Natural England advises that we concur with the assessment conclusions provided that all recommendations of the assessment are integrated into the neighbourhood plan.

If you have any queries relating to the advice in this letter please contact me on 07385 407115.

Yours sincerely

Amelia Earley
Wessex Team