



Environmental Planning
Design & Management

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Our reference	Project reference: 5587B
Your reference	Email dated 12/01/18
Date	19/01/18

Dear Chris

Cotswold Local Plan HRA – Review of Main Modifications and Changes to the Policy Map

Thank you for sending through the schedule of proposed main modifications and changes to the policy map of the Cotswold District Local Plan¹. I have reviewed the schedule in light of the modifications proposed since the latest iteration of the HRA report was issued in April 2017², and the subsequent Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) was agreed with Natural England³. I have reviewed the proposed modifications, having regard the potential for any additional likely significant effects to be screened into the HRA as a result of the modifications, and also considered any implications for the justification and reasoning of the conclusions of the current Appropriate Assessment with regards to physical loss / damage to habitat, air pollution and recreational pressure at North Meadows and Clattinger Farm SAC and Cotswold Beechwoods SAC.

Having reviewed the schedule, I note that the vast majority of proposed modifications are points of clarification in response to matters raised during the course of the examination process, which would not result in any material changes to the effects of the plan. Most importantly, I note that the overall housing requirement of the plan has not changed, and although the overall housing supply figures have risen slightly, several of the allocations have been deleted or reduced in size. Similarly, there have been some changes to the employment allocations, however the overall area of allocated employment land has been reduced as a result.

It is therefore concluded that the proposed modifications and changes to the policy map would not materially affect the reasoning or justification of the conclusions of the HRA and there is also not understood to be any new evidence or significant additional in-combination effects which have arisen since that assessment was made. As such the conclusions of the HRA remain valid, namely that the Cotswold Local Plan would not have an adverse effect on the Natura 2000 network, either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects.

¹ Proposed main modifications to draft local plan: 12th January 2018

² LUC (2017) Cotswold District Local Plan 2011-2031: Submission Draft Regulation 19 - Focussed Changes

³ Statement of Common Ground between Cotswold District Council and Natural England in relation to Habitats Regulations Assessment of Cotswold District Local Plan 2011-31

Yours sincerely

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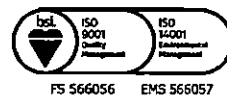
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