



Date: 6 August 2018
Our Ref:
Your Ref: Pre-Submission Draft Mineral Sites Plan 2017

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BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Annabel

Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Mineral Sites Plan Pre-Submission Draft 2017

Thank you for consulting Natural England about the revised HRA of this Plan, taking the form now of an Appropriate Assessment because of recent developments in caselaw.

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.

I can confirm that in our view the new Appropriate Assessment satisfactorily meets the revised procedural requirements stemming from this new caselaw.

In undertaking this process it has highlighted the critical importance of avoidance and mitigation measures, proposed for some allocations, in allowing the Plan to meet the relevant tests in the Habitats Regulations/Directive and therefore the necessity of embedding these measures securely in plan policy.

In this respect the Plan needs to have better links between these measures and the relevant policy. The mitigation measures must be an integral part of the Development Considerations, which at the moment they are not, and the relevant policies should include specific reference to the need to implement these measures (to secure compliance with the Regulations).

Yours sincerely

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