Consultee Comment for planning application 21/01224/OUT

Application Number	21/01224/OUT
Location	Land at former RAF Bicester Bicester Oxfordshire OX26 5HA
Proposal	Outline planning application for Automotive Experience Quarter comprising Commercial, Business and Services uses (Class E), Light Industrial (Class B2), Local Community and Learning Uses (Class F) and vehicle circuits (Sui Generis) with all matters reserved aside from that of access).
Case Officer	Rebekah Morgan
Organisation	Ecology (CDC)
Name	Charlotte Watkins (Ecology Officer)
Address	Ecology Cherwell District Council Bodicote House White Post Road Bodicote Banbury OX15 4AA
Type of Comment	Comment
Type	
Comments	Rebekah The submitted Ecology Response Note draws together the information from several areas of the application and gives greater clarity as to the decisions, intentions and opportunities for the site. In particular the habitat plan identifying areas of habitat by condition is useful in aiding assessment of likely habitat losses and gains. Given this I feel that, whilst the proposals do entail the loss of some of the better quality habitat of the LWS and would therefore inevitably affect the designation boundaries, there is reassurance that this can be adequately mitigated by the intention to raise, through better management, a greater area of habitat to LWS standard in other parts of the application site. This along with the securing of the future management of the site through a Habitat Management Plan does have the potential to lead to gains both for the LWS and for biodiversity generally. This will of course all hinge on a robust management plan with regular review and monitoring built in and which ensures that the aims for biodiversity on site are not in competition with the sites envisaged use going forward. The principles set out in this note however do give assurance that this should be achievable. I have no further objections at this outline stage therefore. Kind regards Charlotte
Received Date	16/12/2021 15:11:20
Attachments	