**From:** Paul Evans
**Sent:** 23 October 2018 15:00
**To:** Maria Philpott
**Cc:** Rebekah Morgan
**Subject:** RE: 18/01253/F Hotel at Bicester Heritage Airfield

Hi Maria

The application site is located within the southern corner of Bicester Airfield Local Wildlife Site, this issue was raised in previous pre-application responses, however the botanical surveys which have been undertaken by BSG Ecology in 2016 and subsequently by Ecology Solutions have highlighted that the grassland has been significantly degraded by management practices on site and the current species composition and condition does not meet the LWS selection criteria or to qualify as a Habitat of Principal Importance. In addition the Ecology Solutions report details that calcareous grassland habitat will be created within the landscaped areas of the development to mitigate for the loss. This will be established using locally sourced seed and managed for nature conservation to maintain the habitat in a favourable condition in the future following establishment. With this in mind it can be judged to be compliant with NPPF and local policy ESD10.

Reptiles may potentially be impacted by the proposals, within my comments on 13/09/18 I have recommended that a condition be applied to a permission requesting a Reptile Mitigation Strategy to be submitted prior to commencement, so the details of this mitigation e.g. the receptor site can be reviewed and approved prior to commencement.

As the hedgerows along the western boundary are to be largely kept intact the need for a brown hairstreak survey does not seem to be required as there habitat will largely be kept intact.

The submitted report by Alison Smith of the University of Oxford's Environmental Change Institute is a useful desktop exercise for looking at issues on a holistic level. Following sample ground truthing of the data used in this report, the findings of the report would be useful to feed into action within the development of Bicester. It could also feed into the development of masterplans for strategic site for example the wider Bicester Heritage Site.

I trust this addresses Pamela letter. If you have any queries give me a call I’m here till 4pm today.

Thanks

Paul

**Paul Evans MCIEEM**

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