Wiltshire Council

Wiltshire Council Planning Consultation Response

ECOLOGY

Officer name: Jenna Buss
Date: **25/10/23**
Application No: PL/2023/07744
Proposal: Discharge of conditions 3, 5 & 10 of planning application PL/2022/02748 (The installation of a 25m lattice tower supporting 9 no. antennas, 6 no. transmission dishes, 6 no. equipment cabinets, 1 no. meter cabinet, and ancillary development thereto, including a GPS module, a generator and fuel tank, hard standing, and a fenced compound, for the Shared Rural Network project on behalf of Hutchison 3G UK Limited).
Site Address: Land at Crockerton Firs, Old Shaftesbury Drove, Alvediston, SP3 5PS
Case Officer: Becky Jones

Condition No.	Further information required by condition	**Satisfactorily addressed (Document & Date)**
10	Prior to any commencement of works comprising ground works/excavation, tree removal, vegetation clearance and boundary treatment works, a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) shall be submitted to the local planning authority for approval in writing. The Plan shall provide details of the avoidance, mitigation and protective measures to be implemented before and during the construction phase, including but not necessarily limited to, the following: a. Identification of ecological protection areas/buffer zones and tree root protection areas and details of physical means of protection, e.g. exclusion fencing. b. Working method statements for protected/priority species, such as nesting birds and reptiles. c. Mitigation strategies already agreed with the local planning authority prior to determination, such as for great crested newts, dormice or bats; this should comprise the pre-construction/construction related elements of strategies only. d. Work schedules for activities with specific timing requirements in order to avoid/reduce	**NO** **25/10/2023** **REF: Construction Environment Management Plan 3UK PNS SRN1174 Alvediston. August 2023. WHP Telecoms Ltd**

	potential harm to ecological receptors; including details of when a licensed ecologist and/or ecological clerk of works (ECoW) shall be present on site. e. Key personnel, responsibilities and contact details (including Site Manager and ecologist/ECoW). f. Timeframe for provision of compliance report to the local planning authority; to be completed by the ecologist/ECoW and to include photographic evidence where appropriate. Development shall be carried out in strict accordance with the approved CEMP. REASON: To ensure adequate protection and mitigation for ecological receptors prior to and during construction, and that works are undertaken in line with current best practice and industry standards and are supervised by a suitably licensed and competent professional ecological consultant where applicable.	

Thank you for consulting Ecology, I have reviewed the information submitted in support of the discharge of condition 10 which included a Construction Environment Management Plan. August 2023. WHP Telecoms Ltd.

We welcome the information included within the CEMP to date. However, additional information in relation to ecology will be required prior to discharge of this condition.

As outlined within condition 10 section a; Identification of ecological protection areas/buffer zones and tree root protection areas are required. This information is not currently included within the CEMP document. Additional information will be required to demonstrate the type and location of fencing to ensure the area outside of the working zone will be protected. This should be included on a map and submitted in support of the CEMP.

Working method statements for protected/priority species were also requested but have not been included. Section 8 of the report refers to water vole which is not relevant to this application and this information should be removed. It is understood that works are anticipated to start shortly which is outside of the bird breeding season. However, no schedule of works (section 5.2) has been provided to support this. We also note that working hours are stated as 0800 – 1800. If works are being undertaken within winter months, these working hours would require additional lighting which could impact upon wildlife. The CEMP needs to specify working hours in the season works will be undertaken. If lighting is proposed, a lighting strategy must be submitted to the LPA for prior approval.

With regards to badger, which may move through the site, methods to prevent injury/harm overnight must be provided to include but not be limited to; covering up of pits or the inclusion of ramps etc.

Sections d and e refer to specific personnel. Due to the potential for bat roosts on site, a licenced ecologist and ECoW will be required for the removal of trees T2-T5. No details of the licenced ecologist have been included and no additional measures to ensure works are carried out in accordance with the

ecology report have been included within the CEMP. This information is required and should be included together with the timeframe for provision of the compliance report and photographs, to be submitted to the LPA.

Final sign off – all matters addressed:

Ecologist	Date
Jenna Buss	**25/10/23**