

Wiltshire Council Planning Consultation Response

ECOLOGY

Officer name:	Abi Gazzard
Date:	03/07/2026
Application number:	PL/2026/03379
Proposal:	Removal Condition 3 on PL/2026/01852 - The removal of the existing 3no antennas and 1no. cabinet; the installation of 6no. antennas, 1no. 300mm and 1no. 600mm dishes, 18 ERS units and 1no. GPS module mounted on the existing 25m mast; the installation of 1no. cabinet and development works thereto
Site address:	Cemetery Gate Copse, Off Holt Road, Wiltshire, BA15 1TS
Case officer:	Steven Vellance

Recommendations:

☐	No Comment
☐	Support
☒	No objection
☐	Condition (no objection subject to conditions)
☐	Objection - further information required
☐	Objection in principle
☒	HRA completed

Thank you for consulting Ecology. I have reviewed the application and supporting documents against OS Maps, aerial photography of the site and surrounding area, together with GIS layers of statutory and non-statutory designated sites and existing records of protected species.

The site comprises an existing radio telecommunications site where permission for upgrading works has been granted (PL/2026/01852). The upgrade works include the removal of three antennas, and installation of six new antennas, two microwave dishes and eighteen ERS units.

This application concerns the removal of Condition 3, which requires the submission of an acoustic impact assessment. This condition is not directly related to ecology, and, in any case, the proposal concerns an existing telecommunications site where some level of background noise pollution is already likely to occur.

As per the [Code of practice for wireless network development in England - GOV.UK](#), relevant stakeholders such as the LPA must consider impacts on designated nature conservation sites, as below:

Bath and Bradford-on-Avon Bats Special Area for Conservation (SAC)

The site is located within Lesser Horseshoe and Greater Horseshoe core roost buffers (consultation zones) associated with the Bath and Bradford-on-Avon SAC. Proposals in these areas have the potential to result in significant adverse impact on the special features of the Bath and Bradford-on-Avon SAC.

A test of likely significance has been carried out by the relevant Competent Authority (Wiltshire Council) as required by Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). This concluded that given the scale and nature

of the currently proposed development which (i) involves no overall loss of a roost of a qualifying species, (ii) does not propose removal of any vegetation, and iii) does not propose any additional external lighting, there is no mechanism for adverse impact on the Conservation Objectives of the SAC, and the proposal can be screened out of Appropriate Assessment.

Sign off by WC Ecologist will only be given once ALL outstanding information has been submitted and agreed sufficient.

Ecologist Abi Gazzard	Date 03/07/2026
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