Dear Sean

SAC Policy – Council to discuss with Cannock Chase Council latest revised policy wording on SAC, to ensure consistency

Council response = The Council has discussed the latest revised policy wording on the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC) with Cannock Chase Council and with all SAC Partnership members. For clarification and set out below the following policy wording has been prepared following the Cannock Chase Local Plan Examination hearing sessions, and is also detailed in the Schedule of Further Additional Modifications (A27) reference FAM35. The Council considers that this wording provides consistency with neighbouring authorities but also reflects the position for the Stafford Borough area.

“Development will not be permitted where it would lead directly or indirectly to an adverse effect upon the integrity of the Cannock Chase SAC where the effects cannot be mitigated.

To ensure the Cannock Chase SAC is not harmed, all development that leads to a net increase in dwellings within 15 km of the site, as shown on the policies map, must provide mitigation and avoidance measures.

Development will be expected to take all necessary steps on-site, to avoid or mitigate any adverse effects upon the SAC’s integrity or, where this cannot be achieved within the development, make provision for mitigation measures designed to avoid such adverse effects taking place, as set out in the Cannock Chase SAC Visitor Impacts Mitigation Report (or any updated mitigation report agreed by the SAC Partnership).

The effective avoidance and / or mitigation of any identified adverse effects must be demonstrated to the Council as the Competent Authority and Natural England and secured prior to approval of the development through developer contributions or levy mechanism.

Further information will be set out in a Supplementary Planning Document on mitigation and implementation.”

Kind regards

Alex