

27th June 2016

Local Plan Team
Cornwall Council
County Hall
Treyew Road
Truro
TR1 3AY

Dear Sir / Madam,

Statement to Inform Habitats Regulations Assessment of the June 2016 Schedule of Post-Hearing Changes for Consultation

The most recent HRA undertaken for the Cornwall Plan covered the Proposed Schedule of Further Significant Changes. Following the recommenced hearings the schedule has been further modified to produce the Post-Hearing Changes for Consultation. From an HRA point of view these changes are minor and do not merit a further iteration of the full HRA report. Rather, this statement discusses the relevant changes to policy. Note that we have not listed policy changes below where there is no relevance to HRA matters.

Policy	Amendment for Post-Hearing Changes
Policy 2a	<p>Point 1 of Policy 2a has been amended to read ‘<i>a minimum of 52,500 homes ...</i>’ The number of dwellings has not changed but the word minimum has been inserted. This is frequently seen in Local Plans. The use of the word minimum does not mean that the Local Plan specifically intends to deliver more than 52,500 dwellings but is included to avoid an impression that no more dwellings can be permitted once 52,500 is reached. If planning applications come forward towards the end of the plan period that would push the total numbers to be delivered above 52,500 they would need to be subject to HRA in the usual manner to ensure that the conclusions of the Local Plan HRA still apply.</p> <p>The table of dwellings targets within the policy has been slightly amended. The total housing number for the St Austell CNA has not been altered but the numbers that make up that total have been corrected to refer to 1,200 dwellings within the eco-communities and 2,900 at St Austell. Since the overall housing number for the CNA has not changed this does not alter the conclusions of the HRA.</p>
Table 1 page 18	This table has been reworked for clarity. However, the overall numbers have not altered and this does not therefore change the conclusions of the HRA.
Paragraph 2.98, page 49	Clarifications made to the reference to Falmouth Bay to St Austell pSPA, to clarify that recreational effects on the pSPA will be monitored to assess any potential risk in line with the published Vulnerability Assessment for the site. This does not change the approach to Falmouth Bay to St Austell pSPA and therefore does not change the conclusions of the HRA.
Policy 23a	The supporting text on page 49 has been slightly amended but only to provide clarification as to the type of mitigation that could be delivered. There are no substantive changes that alter the conclusion of the HRA.

	The replacement of Policy 23a with new text was assessed in full during the previous HRA.
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In conclusion, none of the changes made to the plan since the previous HRA result in changes to the conclusions of that HRA.

Yours faithfully
for **AECOM Infrastructure & Environment UK Limited**

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James Riley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'y' at the end.

Dr James Riley
Associate Director