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Joanna Ellershaw
Planning Policy Officer
Harborough District Council
The Symington Building
Adam and Eve Street
Market Harborough
Leicestershire
LE16 7AG

## <u>Habitat Regulations Assessment Implications of the Main Modifications to the Harborough Local Plan</u>

Dear Ms. Ellershaw,

The Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the submitted Harborough Local Plan concluded that development in the Harborough Local Plan will not have a likely significant effect on any internationally important wildlife sites either alone or in combination with other plans and projects. These conclusions were based on the fact that no such sites are located within the district and no impact pathways were identified linking internationally important wildlife sites outside of the district (e.g. Rutland Water SPA/Ramsar site) to development within Harborough District. Natural England agreed with this conclusion in an email dated 29<sup>th</sup> August 2017.

The proposed Main Modifications have been examined for HRA implications. However, given the absence of impact pathways linking housing and employment development in Harborough District to internationally important wildlife sites, it is considered that the Main Modifications to the Harborough Local Plan will not alter the conclusions of the existing HRA.

Yours sincerely,

Dr James Riley

James Kiley

Technical Director (HRA), AECOM

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