



Sent by email to: [townclerk@marlborough-tc.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@marlborough-tc.gov.uk)



[thameswaterplanningpolicy@savills.com](mailto:thameswaterplanningpolicy@savills.com)



0118 9520 500

22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021

## Marlborough Neighbourhood Plan - Habitat Regulations Assessment

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your letter dated 26<sup>th</sup> March regarding the above. I apologise for the delay, but provide a response to your request for points of confirmation below, but firstly the EA are the competent body from a technical perspective in terms of HRAs and therefore you should chase for their response if not yet received.

*Confirmation regarding whether Thames Water's existing water/groundwater abstraction licence(s) has headroom/capacity to allow for the additional quantum of housing proposed within the catchment of the River Kennet and tributaries by policy MARL1 of the Marlborough NP, as well as the other development supported by the NP; or whether the dwellings allocated in the NP would exceed the quantum of housing/development allowed for by the existing licence(s).* We can confirm that, although this development was not specifically included in our WRMP19, from a supply and demand balance point of view we would not consider the demand associated with this development to be material. This is because the local plans for the area which our WRMP19 forecasts were based on contained high levels of growth, and we also include target headroom to cater for uncertainty in total growth, so this accommodates additional demand of the scale proposed here.

*Confirmation regarding whether Thames Water's Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) (this document is discussed further below) has been subject to an updated HRA and whether the development allocated and supported by the NP could be accommodated within the projected increase set out in the WRMP, as well as confirmation as to whether the projected increase in demand set out in the 2019 WRMP was assessed as compliant with the Habitats Regulations.* Our final WRMP19 was accompanied by an updated HRA; to accommodate demand in this geographic area only demand management measures were proposed over the planning period; these were assessed within our WRMP19 HRA and found to pose no likely significant effects on any designated sites.

*Confirmation regarding whether the development allocated and supported by the NP can be covered by the existing water/groundwater abstraction licence(s) and still be compliant with the HRA which would have been conducted by the EA before issuing of the licence.* Given the above responses we consider this to be the case.

We trust the above is satisfactory, but please do not hesitate to contact David Wilson on the number above if you have any queries.

Yours faithfully

**Thames Water Utilities Ltd**

**CC:** [ellie.challans@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:ellie.challans@environment-agency.gov.uk)  
[emma.fisher@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:emma.fisher@wiltshire.gov.uk)