

Date: 29 November 2022
Our ref: 413400
Your ref: Kittiwake Implementation and Monitoring Plan



Siân Evans
BY EMAIL ONLY

Hornbeam House
Crewe Business
Park Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Siân,

Norfolk Projects Offshore Wind Farms - Kittiwake Implementation and Monitoring Plan (KIMP)

Thank you for your consultation dated 18 November 2022. The following constitutes Natural England's formal statutory response.

Natural England's Advice

Natural England has contributed to the KIMP and following review we agree to its content. Natural England however wish to highlight our position on the amount of compensation proposed, as set out in the agreements log. This is as follows:

"The KIMP has been developed on the basis that the BEIS SoS has mandated compensation at a level of 35 kittiwakes per annum being recruited into the wider kittiwake population. Natural England considers the location, design and scale of what the KIMP proposes at Lowestoft has the potential to provide this level of compensation.

Natural England recognise the scale of compensation proposed is likely to provide an equivalent number of recruits to those lost at FFC SPA into the biogeographic population. However, Natural England's view is that the scale of compensation should seek to provide a realistic chance of the national site network, rather than the biogeographic population, receiving an equivalent number of recruits to that lost. The current compensation is likely to be insufficient to deliver this. In this context, while 432 nests would provide appropriate compensation for Boreas (and potentially Boreas plus East Anglia ONE North ((EA1N)) and East Anglia Two ((EA2))), we do not consider that it would provide appropriate compensation for both Norfolk projects (irrespective of EA1N and EA2's requirements).

Natural England considers that providing for c850 nest spaces in appropriate locations would provide an appropriate level of compensation. This would also better reflect Natural England's view of the submissions made by the Norfolk projects during the pre-determination consultations, which referred to providing 200-300 nest spaces for Boreas and 600 for Vanguard respectively (based on the upper 95% confidence interval mortality estimates)."

For any queries relating to the content of this letter please contact me using the details provided below.

Yours sincerely

Zara Ziauddin
Marine Lead Adviser - Major Casework
East Midlands Team
Southern North Sea
Natural England

