

I would like to reply to Sunnica's response to my comments (REP4-030) about impacts on declining farmland bird species (especially corn bunting and yellow wagtail) that observations by Sunnica and others have shown have locally high populations in the vicinity of Sunnica E site A, close to Isleham. Sunnica has argued that some habitat benefits for these species are provided for within the scheme and that this is an example where biodiversity gain is achieved. It is not clear which of the habitat mitigation works is considered beneficial to these species, and there has been no attempt to quantify the benefits for these species. It is not possible to argue whether biodiversity gain or simple replacement would occur to offset the undoubted loss of available mixed arable farming as breeding habitat for these species, or whether that mitigation would be in locations that would continue to provide the wildlife experiences currently enjoyed by local people."