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16<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Dear Allan,

**Re. Emerging Local Plan and Land at Junction 16 of the M6**

We are aware of the comments made by Natural England at the Regulation 19 consultation stage of the emerging Local Plan, and that the Council are undertaking some air quality assessment work to quantify any potential impacts.

Indurent welcome the fact that you have commissioned that air quality work and look forward to reviewing it once complete. It is obviously the case that the Council and other interested parties such as our client will need to reflect carefully on its findings but having liaised with our consultant team we are optimistic around this issue.

Focusing on the two areas of particular interest, first, a high proportion of heavy and light vehicles will of course use the M6 North but the Oakhanger Moss SSSI is over 130m from the motorway. Pollutant concentrations reduce significantly with distance from the road, to the extent that any increase in traffic flow would be expected to have an extremely small impact on nitrogen deposition within the SSSI.

Second, the A531 runs adjacent to the Black Firs and Cranberry Bog SSSI, whilst the B5500 is approximately 75m from the SSSI. Heavy good vehicles accessing the proposed development are expected to use the strategic road network elsewhere and are unlikely to follow the routes near to the SSSI. Some employees may use these routes to access the proposed development, although the increase in trips is unlikely to be significant. In fact, our initial highways analysis shows only between 1 – 2% of light vehicles from the Junction 16 scheme would use the A531, and no HGVs at all.

On this basis and whilst it is unlikely to be necessary one approach to further reduce any effect, however slight, might be to provide routing guidance in the Travel Plan to steer workers away from this area as far as possible.

In this context our client would of course be pleased to work with you and Natural England on this issue, including in relation to mitigation. Indurent remain fully and enthusiastically committed to the site and are keen to assist wherever appropriate.

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I trust this clarifies our client's position but please do contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely



**Robert Barnes - MRTPI, Director**  
**For and on behalf of Planning Prospects Ltd**