

Neil Underhay
Development & Environment
North Somerset Council
Town Hall
Walliscote Grove
Weston-Super-Mare
BS23 1UJ

18/P/5118/OUT

06/11/2019

Dear Mr Underhay

Re. Outline Planning Application involving Bristol Airport Expansion (to 12 million terminal passengers per annum)

Avon Wildlife Trust is the largest local charity working to protect wildlife in North Somerset and the West of England. With the support of over 18,000 members and 3,500 volunteers, we care for 30 nature reserves and work with landowners, communities and corporate partners to help nature's recovery and inspire people with a love of wildlife.

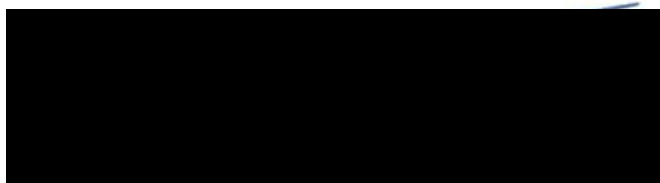
As North Somerset Council have recognised, we are in the midst of an unprecedented climate emergency and ecological crisis. We do not believe that airport expansion is consistent with the action needed to address this, due to the carbon emissions from flights and from local travel to the airport.

Avon Wildlife Trust therefore **objects** in principle to the proposal to increase the number of flights from Bristol Airport and to develop new infrastructure and facilities to enable this.

The airport is located in an important area for local wildlife, with species including dormice, silver washed fritillary and stinking hellebore in the surrounding woodlands at Cleeve Ridge and Kingswood and the Wildlife Trust reserve at Goblin Combe. This is an internationally important area for greater horseshoe bats, which forage in the land around the airport.

If development of the airport does go ahead, it will be vitally important that every possible measure is taken to avoid impacts on local wildlife and habitats. Overall, the airport must ensure habitats for wildlife are enhanced and left in a better state than they were pre-development - in line with the Government's principle of biodiversity net gain. This must include measures for the protection and enhancement of habitats and foraging areas for greater and lesser horseshoe bats consistent with North Somerset and Mendip Bats Special Area of Conservation (SAC) Guidance on Development: Supplementary Planning Document.

Yours Sincerely,



Ian Barrett
Chief Executive



Avon

Avon Wildlife Trust
32 Jacobs Wells Road
Bristol
BS8 1DR

T: 0117 917 7270

F: 0117 929 7273

E: mail@avonwildlifetrust.org.uk

W: avonwildlifetrust.org.uk

Partnership awards:

International CSR Excellence
(Bronze) Education 2013

Corporate Social
Responsibility World
Leader 2014

Green Apple Environment
Award (Gold) 2013

Registered in England and Wales
Registered office: 32 Jacobs Wells
Road, Bristol BS8 1DR
Limited company no. 1495108
VAT no. 567 5614 10
Reg. charity no. 280422

Stance:

- Object

Reasons for Comment:

- Affect local ecology
- Increase of pollution
- Other – climate change / carbon emissions