



# Progress on Monitoring Strategy

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# Requirement for Monitoring

- Comply with Habitat Regulations  
'conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora'
- Assessors Report; 'It is accepted by all parties that monitoring will be essential if the avoidance and mitigation strategy is to be effective.' (section 1.1.1)
- ISDP 12; The measures proposed are to protect the SPA from additional visitors pressures... effectiveness needs to be monitored.
- Delivery Framework; Key Principle 15: Monitoring and Review.' Monitoring will be co-ordinated strategically, inline with the monitoring framework agreed by the Joint Strategic Partnership Board (15.2).'

## Monitoring Currently Undertaken

- SPA Breeding Birds (Natural England)
- SSSI Condition Assessments (Natural England)
- Visitor Surveys (Local Authorities & Developers)
- SANG improvements (Local Authorities & Developers)
- S106 agreements for mini- plans (Local Authorities)
- Housing figures (Local Authorities & GOSE)

# SPA Birds & SSSI Condition Assessments



## Birds:

- Continue existing bird surveys (long term trends important)

## Additional Information:

- Consider species differences and prove breeding success

## SSSI Condition Assessment:

- At least 6 yearly cycle of SSSI unit monitoring
- assesses habitat condition

## Additional information included on assessments:

- Land use
- Visitor pressures
- Access Management improvement measures

# Visitor Surveys

## SANGS:

- Surveys to follow SPA standard
- Visitor Counting is the same as for the SPA (ie pressure pads, visitor surveys)

## Visitor Numbers (SPA & SANGS):

- Verify current visitor evidence (trends for use of SPA & SANGs)
- Surveys from more than 26 access points
- Use of devices for counting visitor numbers
- Car Park counts

## Visitor Behaviour:

### Face to Face surveys on behaviour impacts

- Sample survey a few of the above to get more in depth attitudes
- SPA monitoring (landowners & NE for impacts of visitors)
- Soil enrichment issues

# Avoidance Strategies or 'mini' plans

Currently being collated in mini plan areas:

- Numbers of dwellings
- Contributions from each development
- Development linked to which SANG
- Development Contribution linked to specific SANG project
- Timings of applications from outline to completion

In addition to what is already being collated, it is proposed to report on:

- Numbers of dwellings refused in 400m zone
- Numbers of 'exceptional' cases accepted within 400m zone
- Report all developments that are subject to Appropriate Assessment including those beyond 5km
- Any variances mini plan tariffs
- Analysis of housing delivery being consistent with SEP and projected targets.
- Developments not in mini plan areas



## Next Steps for monitoring

- Workshop in May with Natural England, Contractors and Interested parties – Monitoring Framework (Action 4.1)
- Working group formed for monitoring strategy
- Harmonising mini plan reports (timings & content)
- Cost Monitoring requirements for the next 5 years and calculate strategic charge required for provision of monitoring by June 2008
- 1<sup>st</sup> monitoring report to Board meeting June 2008