

**From:** <redacted>

**Sent:** 20 April 2023 10:33

**To:** <redacted>

**Cc:** JNCC Offshore Industries Advice <[OIA@jncc.gov.uk](mailto:OIA@jncc.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** Civil Aviation Authority : Draft Airspace Change Masterplan <redacted>

Dear <redacted>

Thank you for contacting JNCC regarding the CAA's draft Airspace Change Masterplan. Please find below our response from our ornithologists.

### **Habitats Regulations Screening Report**

**Table 1** We are content with the LSE screening approach to determine a Zone of Influence as 18km for disturbance due to the presence of aircraft and/or aircraft noise.

**Paragraph 2.17** "The identification of other plans and projects that may operate in-combination with the Masterplan will include any activities that could include airport expansion with resultant changes in ATMs or proposed changes to other airspace activities (e.g. civilian or military flight activity). There is limited opportunity for ACPs to act in-combination with other plans and projects that are ground based, but these could include development resulting in increased levels of nitrogen deposition on European sites or disturbance of the features for which they are designated." An in-combination assessment should take into consideration other plans or projects that affect a particular designated site. These may therefore include other plans and projects outside of other airspace activities, and may include other plans and projects occurring in the marine environment, particularly where marine SPAs are the sites being assessed.

**Table 2** Existing Threats and Pressures on the Outer Thames Estuary SPA need to be revised. Natural England's Designated sites website (<https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/>) should be consulted on pressures to the Outer Thames Estuary SPA.

**Appendix B** We are content with the Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment approach to assessment. Note that some SPAs have qualifying features for which the literature review in Appendix B does not cover, therefore further literature review regarding disturbance effects to those birds is recommended.

If you have any further queries, please do let me know.

Kind regards,

<redacted>

**JNCC**

Inverdee House, Baxter Street, Aberdeen, AB11 9QA | <redacted> | Direct Dial: <redacted>

| Switchboard: +44 (0)330 1242162 | [jncc.gov.uk](http://jncc.gov.uk)