

1. Which Main Modification are you responding on?

- 1. Local Plan Main Modification (MMxx) ref.: 44
- 2. Local Plan Paragraph ref.: 3.f. of Policy LP18
- 3. Local Plan Figure/ Table No.:

2. To which Test of Soundness does your representation relate?

	Yes	No
1. Legally compliant?	Selected	Not Selected
2. Complies with the Duty to Cooperate?	Selected	Not Selected
3. Positively prepared (i.e. seeks to meet the area`s objectively assessed needs)?	Selected	Not Selected
4. Justified (an appropriate strategy, taking into account the reasonable alternatives, and based on proportionate evidence)?	Selected	Not Selected
5. Effective (i.e. deliverable over the plan period)?	Not Selected	Selected
6. Consistent with National Planning Policy Framework?	Selected	Not Selected

3. Summary of Comments:

I support the new reference to built-in nesting boxes, as built-in boxes are a permanent feature, have zero maintenance requirements, and better thermal regulation. For clarity, so that the policy is effective and therefore sound, please state "such as swift bricks which are a universal nest brick for small bird species", and state that this should be "in accordance with best-practice guidance such as BS 42021 or CIEEM". In more detail, best-practice guidance will ensure suitable numbers and locations (guidance is available in BS 42021:2022 and from CIEEM (<https://cieem.net/resource/the-swift-a-bird-you-need-to-help/>)). Swift bricks are the only type of nest box mentioned in National Planning Policy Guidance 2019 Natural Environment paragraph 023. Swift bricks are considered a universal nest brick suitable for a wide range of small bird species including swifts, house sparrows and starlings (e.g. see NHBC Foundation: Biodiversity in New Housing Developments (April 2021) Section 8.1 Nest sites for birds, page 42:

https://www.nhbcfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/S067-NF89-Biodiversity-in-new-housing-developments_FINAL.pdf).

4. This consultation forms the final stage of the plan-making process for the Local Plan 2021 - 2040. Do you wish to be notified further about the Local Plan, at either of the following stages?

	Yes	No
1. Publication of Inspector`s Report (anticipated January 2025)	Selected	Not Selected
2. Adoption of Local Plan (anticipated February 2025)	Not Selected	Not Selected