BHCC37 - Matter 5 - Proposed Main Mod to the supporting text of SSA1 (paragraph 3.18) re the Swift colony agreed with participants

Following email dialogue and video call discussions with SOS, RSPB and Dr Kate Cole, County Ecologist (ESCC), the agreed new paragraph to be put forward as MM to the supporting text to Policy SSA1 Brighton General Hospital:

MM Supporting text to Policy SSA1, Paragraph 3.18

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SSA1 Brighton General Hospital Site, Elm Grove, Freshfield Road

Delete last two sentences of paragraph 3.18 and create new paragraph to read:

The site holds around 15 swift nests considered to be the oldest swift breeding colony in Brighton and Hove and thus offers a unique opportunity to safeguard and enhance biodiversity. Any new scheme will be required to make provision for installing and maintaining swift boxes in appropriate locations.

New paragraph: The site is understood to hold around 15 to 20 swift nests that are considered to be the oldest and largest swift breeding colony in Brighton and Hove and thus the site offers a unique opportunity to safeguard and enhance biodiversity. Any new scheme will be required to make robust and appropriate provision to safeguard, protect and support the swift colony throughout the entirety of the development phasing: demolition, construction and operation. Any demolition should not occur before the end of a swift breeding season. A phased approach to both demolition and construction may be necessary as part of measures to provide an interim solution to safeguard the colony which could include the provision of additional swift bricks/boxes on remaining existing on-site buildings. Interim solutions will need to be proven to be successful.

In response to representations made by the Royal Society for Protection of Birds, Sussex Wildlife Trust and Sussex Ornithological Society, the MM provides further detail in the supporting text regarding the need to provide robust and appropriate provision to safeguard, protect and support the swift colony throughout the entirety of the development phasing.