

From: [Lee, Simon](#)
To: [Juniper, Tony](#); [Spain, Marian](#); [Law, Alan](#); [Cooke, Rob](#); [Jowitt, Adrian \(NE\)](#)
(Adrian.Jowitt@naturalengland.org.uk); [Appleton, David](#); [Saunders, Richard](#); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; [Cotterell, Caroline](#);
[Burney, Jonathan](#)
Subject: Official Sensitive - Hen Harrier Reintroduction Update
Date: 09 September 2020 15:56:00

Dear All,

I am very pleased to say that we have made a bit of a breakthrough in sourcing donor stock from France, which has been prompted by our proposal to develop a captive breeding programme.

The French Harrier Network (our main conservation collaborators) have reviewed their general position towards the reintroduction, and now support the provision of chicks from abandoned nests for use in a captive breeding programme. In practical terms, this one step will massively speed up the gathering process as well as the ultimately improve the quality of breeding stock. There have been indications that the Network may also support the supply of a limited number of chicks from abandoned nests for direct release in time. We shall see.

Furthermore, following a lead through the Network, we now have formal agreement from a rescue centre in northern France to transfer 7 juvenile hen harriers to the UK. Putting in place the import/export permissions could take some time, so the Centre is happy to keep the birds until that process is completed - we will of course cover the costs of the bird's extended stay and staff time required for making transport arrangements.

We are in discussion with the International Centre for Birds of Prey regarding practical development of the breeding programme and provision of temporary holding/quarantine facilities initially required.

Please do note the sensitivity of this information and not share beyond those listed in this email.

Best wishes,

Simon

Simon Lee

Project Manager

Hen Harrier Reintroduction

Strategy and Government Advice

Mobile: 07825 904742

Teleconference number: 03306 068753 Code: 6933854161

Local office: Sterling House, Dix's Field, Exeter, EX1 1QA

www.gov.uk/natural-england