

Ecology response for H/22/94265 WORKSHOP REAR OF, HAWTHORNE HOUSE, BOTLEY ROAD, WEST END, SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 3HA

Loft conversion to form habitable accommodation with dormer windows at the front and rear (Resubmission of application H/22/93219)

Summer Sharpe

6/12/22

There are records of bats nearby and the proposal would involve extensive work to the roof. The photos of Hawthorne House on Google maps (image date July 2021) show Velux windows on the front elevation, whereas the existing elevation drawings show an intact roof. Is this application for the main house or for another (workshop) building? I need to review close-up photos taken in good light of the roof, flashings, soffits, and fascia of the building in this proposal to determine whether further survey is required.

Biodiversity enhancement is required. A bat box or a swift nest box might be appropriate on this site.

The Bat Conservation Trust recommends installing a bat brick/box at least 4 m above the ground, away from artificial light sources, sheltered from strong winds and exposed to the sun for part of the day, facing south, south-east or south-west. ([https://www.bats.org.uk › our-work › putting-up-your-box](https://www.bats.org.uk/our-work/putting-up-your-box))

Swift nest boxes are best positioned under the eaves or on walls facing north, northeast or north-west out of direct sunlight, five metres above the ground, with clear adjacent airspace so swifts can access them in a high-speed direct flight.

(<https://www.swiftconservation.org/Nestboxes%26Attraction.htm> )

Additional information is available at:

<https://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/discover/in-your-garden/article/31>, planting for bats

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/science/conservation-biodiversity/wildlife/plants-for-pollinators>

<https://www.bats.org.uk/our-work/buildings-planning-and-development/bat-boxes>

<https://www.hampshireswifts.co.uk/nesting>

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/advice/how-you-can-help-birds/nestboxes/nestboxes-for-small-birds/>

<https://www.swift-conservation.org/OurLeaflets.htm>

<https://www.hedgehogstreet.org/help-hedgehogs/hedgehog-homes/>

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