

Ecology response for H/22/94041 CHERRY TREES, SCHOOL LANE, HAMBLE-LE-RICE,
SOUTHAMPTON, SO31 4JD

Demolition of the existing front porch. Two storey rear extension. Single storey front extension. Alterations to fenestrations

Claire Campbell-Best

15/12/22

I have reviewed photos of the exterior and interior of this property and a survey will not be required. The roof tiles, felt, soffits, fascia, barge boards, and guttering were replaced within the last three years by the previous owner. There are hanging tiles on the front and rear elevations, with one missing tile on the rear (western) elevation. I don't see any potential hedgehog habitat near the building that would be affected by construction.

There is a small risk that a bat might be hibernating under the hanging tiles, in the vicinity of the missing tile on the western elevation. I don't see any gaps in the other hanging tiles.

The following precautionary working method must be conditioned:

Hanging tile removal must be done outside of the active bat roosting season (which is between May and September). The hanging tiles must be removed carefully by hand.

All workers must be informed of the possibility of bats roosting under the tiles. If a bat (or signs of bats such as droppings) is found, all work in that area must stop immediately, and the tile must be carefully replaced without disturbing the bat.

Natural England must be called, and a bat licensed ecological consultant will be needed. Additional advice is available from the Bat Conservation Trust at <https://www.bats.org.uk/advice/help-ive-found-a-bat>.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

28/11/22

There are records of bats, hedgehogs, and swifts very near this site. The proposals involve extensive works to the roof. A preliminary ecological assessment will be required including an internal inspection of the loft spaces.

Biodiversity enhancements will be required. Built-in bat bricks/boxes and swift bricks/nest boxes might be appropriate enhancements.

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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