

Additional Ecology response for H/22/94300 23 TANHOUSE CLOSE, HEDGE END,
SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 0FB

Two storey rear extensions

Alex Stone

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I have reviewed the Bat Preliminary Roost Assessment by Hampshire Ecological Services Ltd (February 2023).

The presence of a bat roost has been confirmed by the presence of approximately 150 bat droppings in this preliminary survey.

The report states that no work can be done on the roof without a European Protected Species (EPS) bat licence from Natural England. The license can only be applied for once planning permission has been granted.

The mitigation measures proposed in the report can be conditioned with the provision that **additional measures may be required** as a result of data collected in the 3 bat activity surveys (done between May and August) which are required to inform the EPS mitigation license.

The method statement will include the following:

The roof tiles, hanging tiles and other features with bat roost suitability (such as soffits and lead-flashing) will be removed carefully by hand under strict ecological supervision to ensure bats are not using these areas. This would need to be done only after the 3 activity surveys, either in September/October 2023, any time afterwards, outside of bat hibernation season.

A bat box (one required per species present or roost lost) will be erected on site prior to commencement of works to shelter any bats found by the ecologist during the destructive search.

Retention of the existing bat access points or like-for-like replacement of any lost (in similar locations and aspects), e.g. using bat access tiles.

*The roof lining of the replacement roof void **must** consist of bitumen type 1F felt with a hessian matrix (**NOT** a breathable membrane such as Tyvek™ or other non-woven membrane). Gaps must be cut near the proposed bat access points as described in the report.*

Only timber treatments recommended by Natural England should be used in line with Natural England's Remedial timber treatment products suitable for use in bat roosts (2013) available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/bat-roosts-use-of-chemical-pest-control-products-and-timber-treatments-in-or-near-them>.

If any external lighting is required, a lighting plan can be conditioned which avoids illuminating retained vegetation and bat access points and follows the guidance in the report.

The biodiversity enhancements recommended in the report can be conditioned.

Lisa Malter
Ecologist