

Ecology response for H/23/94740 65 HOCOMBE ROAD, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH,
SO53 5QA

Proposed two storey front extension. Single storey rear and side extensions.

Dorothy Hei-Tung-Hoh

4/4/23

I have reviewed the Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment and Bat Surveys reports by Middlemarch Environmental Ltd. (September 2022). 20-30 bat droppings (possibly from brown long-eared bats) were found in the loft and there was a high level of activity at times close to emergence and re-entry times for roosting bats. Three surveys were undertaken in August and September 2022, which was quite late in the season. Common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, serotine, noctule and *Myotis* sp. bats were observed commuting and foraging around the building. The report suggests that the building may be a day roost for a low number of brown long-eared bats. There are confirmed common and soprano pipistrelle roosts and a brown long-eared roost in a neighbouring building very close to this one.

A licence from Natural England will be required before any work can be done in or on this building. The license application can only be submitted once planning permission has been granted. The results of three further bat activity surveys will be required within the same peak bat activity season (May through August) as the license application, to accompany the license application. DNA analysis of the bat droppings is also usually required. Mitigation will be determined by the license method statement. If brown long-eared bats are using the building, as implied by the reports, then a dedicated area of the loft space for them to use will be required as part of this mitigation.

The biodiversity enhancements of additional bat boxes and night scented flowering plants and the bat-sensitive lighting guidance recommended in the report are appropriate and can be conditioned.

Condition: Before the commencement of any works on the building, a European protected species mitigation license will be submitted to Natural England by a bat licensed ecological consultant on behalf of the applicant. Full details of the ecological mitigation measures approved in the license method statement will be submitted to and approved in writing by the local authority. The development shall then be undertaken in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To ensure the development incorporates appropriate ecological mitigation and biodiversity measures.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist