

Ecology response amended for H/23/94622 76 BURSLEDON ROAD, HEDGE END,
SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 0BZ

To merge the existing host building and annex into one dwelling. It is proposed for the two front gables to be extended out towards the front of the site by 1.5m along with a 4m rear extension and further internal reconfigurations. Alteration to fenestration.

Rachael Morris

11/4/23

I have reviewed the site photos. I don't see any significant vegetation that would be affected by the proposals. There are drain covers in the front drive and the rear patio which would need to be moved. An extension that extends 4 m to the rear would possibly affect the swimming pool.

There is a mound in the foreground of the photo labelled *to the rear of the property*. This could be a badger sett which will need to be checked by an ecologist as it is within the zone of impact of this proposal.

The closely mown lawn would not provide reptile habitat, although the area around the mound at the rear of the property does look suitable for reptiles. The mound could support hibernating reptiles.

The photos don't show the roof, soffits, fascia or windows close enough or very clearly, but the ecologist who does the badger check can also check the house for potential bat roost features, determine the potential for any other protected species, and make recommendations for specific biodiversity enhancements. A precautionary working method will be required.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

4/4/23

There are records of badgers, bats, slow worms, adders and common lizards adjacent to this site. There is a woodland adjacent to the south of the site and the area to the west has planning permission for a residential development. Close-up photos of the garden, roof, soffits, fascia, flashings and windows are required to determine whether any ecology surveys will be required.

Biodiversity enhancements will be required. A bat brick and a swift brick may be appropriate for this building.

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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