

Additional Ecology response for H/22/93494 49 UPPER NORTHAM ROAD, HEDGE END,
SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 4EA

Proposed loft extension (including raising the ridge level and new front dormers), Proposed rear extension (with accommodation in the roof space), Proposed front canopy porch, Alterations to fenestration, New external render

Dorothy Hei-Tung-Hoh

3/5/23

I have reviewed the Phase II Bat report as added to the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal by Ecosupport (May 2023).

A single bat roost emergence survey was carried out on 2/5/23 in accordance with the assessment of low bat roost suitability in the building. There were 3 species of bats active in the area, but no bats emerged from the building. As bats are highly mobile and this is the very beginning of the survey season it is still possible that they could occupy the potential roost features later in the season.

Please could you add the following informative to the decision notice:

All bats and their roosts are protected by law in the UK. Workers must remain vigilant of the potential presence of bats, and not do anything that could cause harm to a bat. In the unlikely event of any bats being found during demolition or construction, all work must stop immediately, and Natural England must be called. Additional information is available on the Bat Conservation Trust website at <https://www.bats.org.uk/advice/im-working-on-a-building-with-bats/ive-found-a-bat-during-works>.

The biodiversity enhancements and mitigation were recommended in section 6 of the report. Given the scale of the extensions and the loss of potential bat roost features within the hanging tiles a bat brick and a swift brick (or similar built-in permanent roosting and nesting features) should be incorporated into the design of this building rather than a single bird box mounted somewhere on the site which could be subject to falling off. The hedgehog openings in the garden fences are appropriate. In addition, adding night flowering scented plants to the garden would attract moths and other pollinators as food for bats.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist