

Additional Ecology response 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

17/6/23

I have reviewed the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal report by Ecosupport (May 2023). The appraisal has found:

negligible potential for roosting bats in the main dwelling, which is the subject of this application

low potential for breeding and nesting birds in the hedgerows, trees and vegetation surrounding the site

low potential for reptiles around the edges of the garden but negligible potential in the area impacted by the proposals

No evidence of badgers was found on site, however the report states that there is good commuting and foraging habitat for badgers in the surrounding environment and there are records of badgers adjacent to this site, so the site has been assessed to have low potential for foraging and commuting badgers.

Common spotted orchid has been found on the bank at the front of the property. This area will be retained but the orchid is at risk of damage by vehicles. The bank and garden boundaries must be protected during construction to prevent access.

A precautionary working method for badgers, reptiles and breeding and nesting birds and protection for the bank and garden boundaries can be conditioned.

A wildlife sensitive lighting scheme has been recommended if any external lighting is to be added, to avoid any impact on nocturnal animals such as bats, badgers and hedgehogs.

Recommended biodiversity enhancement includes a bat brick to be included into the expansion at the front of the dwelling. This must be located away from any exterior lighting. The report also recommended adding fruit trees and flowering native shrubs to the garden. The addition of night-scented flowering plants should also be considered to attract moths as food for bats. These biodiversity enhancements can be conditioned or agreed before determination.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist