

Ecology response amended for H/23/95576 24 KINGSWAY, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH,
SO53 1EN

Garage extension

Claire Campbell-Best

7/9/23

I have reviewed the site photos and can see quite a few gaps behind the wooden shiplap boards at the edges which would be quite attractive to bats. I don't see any potential bat roost features on the photos taken inside the garage but since the application proposals will require these external boards to be removed a preliminary bat roost appraisal is required.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

4/9/23

There are records of bats, swifts and hedgehogs near this site. From the photos of the existing garage on Google Maps street view (March 2023), there are some gaps in the wooden shiplap boards on the front gable end. The clay tiles of the garage roof are not visible on this photo. A preliminary bat roost appraisal is required. The applicant must be informed that the bat survey season ends in October and starts again in May. If more than one bat activity survey is required (medium or high bat roost potential) at least one must be done in September, so timing is important to avoid delays.

Biodiversity enhancements will be required. A bat brick, bat tile or bat box may be appropriate for this building or a swift nest box could be added to the house.

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>)

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.wildaboutgardens.org.uk/sites/default/files/2022-03/WAG16%20Bats%20updated%202022%20WEB.pdf> - Stars of the Night guide to attract bats into your garden

<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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