

Additional Ecology Response 14 9 23 for F/23/95592 54 LEIGH ROAD, EASTLEIGH, SO50 9DT

Creation of [3.no](#) flats, including two storey and single storey extensions, and parking, cycle and refuse storage.

Summer Sharpe

14/9/23

I have reviewed the PRA report by Vesper Conservation & Ecology Limited (September 2023). The site has been assessed as having negligible potential for bats and reptiles.

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

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>.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

23/8/23

I have reviewed the additional photos and there are hanging tiles with a few gaps on the front southern elevation which could provide habitat for crevice roosting bats. The tiles are proposed to be removed in these plans therefore a preliminary ecological appraisal will be required. Due to the presence of these potential bat roost features on an area that will be impacted by the proposal, a Phase II bat activity survey will also be required. The bat survey season ends at the end of September so I would advise the applicant to arrange the preliminary ecological appraisal survey as quickly as possible so there is still time for the Phase II survey. Many ecological consultants are fully booked at this time of year so further delays may mean that activity surveys cannot be done until next May when the bat activity season starts again. I don't need further photos as the consultant will be able to check everything in person.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

7/8/23

There are records of bats, nesting swifts and hedgehogs near this site. The proposal will affect the roof, involve demolishing at least one outbuilding and result in paving of most of the existing garden areas which appear on the aerial photos. To determine whether a survey

will be required I need to review some close up photos of the roof, windows, fascia, flashings, areas around the windows, outbuildings and any garden areas around the house.

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.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/>

Lisa Malter

Ecologist