

Additional Ecology response for H/23/95095 KISMET, ALLINGTON LANE, WEST END,
SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 3HQ

Single storey rear extension, first floor rear/side extension with addition of dormer on the
side and roof light to front elevation

Alex Webb/Alex Stone

27/9/23

I have reviewed the Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment report by Phillips Ecology (August 2023). The zone of influence of the proposal was assessed as having negligible bat roost potential although there were other areas of the house with lifted tiles and flashing which are potential bat roost features (shown in figures 7 and 8 of the report).

As bats could still be using these features and could be disturbed by vibration, dust and noise from construction work in other areas of the building, the works should only be done outside of the active bat season (May through September).

The additional recommendations in section 5.2 of the report are appropriate and should be implemented. This includes recommendations on a bat box and a bird box on site. Built-in roosting and nesting opportunities such as bat bricks and swift bricks are preferred to externally mounted boxes as they do not require maintenance and cannot fall off.

Please could you also 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>.

As a small detail, figure 4 in the report is not a photo of the interior roof void with piping and insulation, but a photo of the exterior at the rear of the house.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

9/6/23

There are records of bats, badgers, amphibians and reptiles in the near vicinity of this property. It is adjacent to the Itchen Valley Country Park SINCE and approximately 700 m from the boundary of the River Itchen SAC and SSSI.

Due to the extensive work to the roof and the numerous records of bats nearby a preliminary bat roost assessment survey will be required. This must include an internal inspection. A CEMP and 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/>

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