

Ecology response amended for H/23/95824 THE COACH HOUSE, SALTERNS LANE,
BURSLEDON, SOUTHAMPTON, SO31 8DH

External alterations comprising of relocating dormers and fenestration alterations.

Alex Stone

16/10/23

I have reviewed the Preliminary Roost Assessment report by LHB Ecology (V1.1, October 2023). The dwelling was assessed as having negligible bat roost suitability (no suitable external roosting features as the gaps were determined to be too small for bats to enter) and no further surveys are required. The report did not provide a time limit on the advice, but if the works are delayed for more than 1 year, as there are existing gaps which could widen, an additional survey will be required.

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>.

In addition to a bat box, it is recommended to add plants for pollinators to the garden, especially night scented flowering plants to attract moths as food for bats.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

7/9/23

There are numerous records of bats in the area of this site. It is difficult to determine whether there are any potential bat roost features from the photos available, but there are many different angles and shingles on the roof and the upper storey which will need to be checked. A preliminary bat roost appraisal is required.

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>)

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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