

Ecology response for H/23/96151 3 THE PADDOCK, EASTLEIGH, SO50 4SD

Two storey side/rear extension, single storey rear extension, infill single storey front extension and alterations to fenestration.

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This site is in a green impact risk zone for great crested newts, and there are records of slow worms and common toads, bats, stag beetles, hedgehogs, nesting swifts and water voles nearby. The water voles are not likely to cross Tywford Road but there are numerous records of water voles along the river which is less than 150 m from the site. Allbrook Copse SINC, designated for ancient woodland is approximately 65 m from the dwelling, also across Tywford Road.

Photos of the house available on Google Maps do not show any potential bat roost features on the front of the house. Additional photos of the house, garden and roof areas to determine whether a preliminary ecological appraisal will be 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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