

Additional Ecology response for H/23/96072 12 COMMON CLOSE, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 1HF

Single storey front/side extension and single storey rear extension (Part Retrospective)

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This application is a resubmission of previously withdrawn application H/23/94940, however the description of that application was *Demolition of porch and erection of infill extension to front elevation*. The previous application did not include a side or a rear extension. There are records of bats, common toads and hedgehogs very near this site.

I have reviewed the photos again and do not think that a bat survey will be required, however please could you add the following informative to the decision letter:

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 the side and rear extensions have the potential to affect hedgehogs and toads, a precautionary working method to protect them will be required. This can be conditioned and must include either covering excavations and open pipes at night or adding a rough slanted board to allow the escape of any animals that might fall in during the night. Any hedgehogs or toads found on site must not be disturbed, but be allowed to move on their own to a place of safety.

Biodiversity enhancements will be required. A bat brick and a hedgehog house may be appropriate. Planting more flowering plants will attract insects which provide food for bats and other wildlife.

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>)

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.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/advice/how-you-can-help-birds/nestboxes/nestboxes-for-small-birds/>

<https://www.hedgehogstreet.org/help-hedgehogs/hedgehog-homes/>

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