

Ecology response for F/23/96493 18 LOWER ST. HELENS ROAD, HEDGE END,
SOUTHAMPTON, SO30

Erection of 2 bed bungalow with associated parking and storage following demolition of
annexe at rear of property.

Clare Martin

29/11/23

Within a green GCN impact risk zone for great crested newts, there are records of bats, stag beetles and hedgehogs very close to this site. The photo of the annex on Google maps (August 2023) shows a missing tile at the corner of the annex roof, leaving a gap where bats could roost. A preliminary bat roost assessment will be required to determine whether further survey is necessary. I don't see any potential habitat for great crested newts, stag beetles or hedgehogs on this site.

Surface water drainage information is also required.

Biodiversity enhancements will be required. A bat brick may be appropriate for the building and planting flowering plants for pollinators would also enhance this site.

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.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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