

Ecology response for H/26/101025 56 KINGSWAY, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 1FJ

Single storey rear extension to replace existing conservatory

Gina Aftanas

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This site is in a red impact risk zone for great crested newts. There are records of common toads, bats, and hedgehogs nearby. The site photos show potential habitat for toads and hedgehogs in the area of impact. Bats would not be a constraint to this proposal for a single storey extension. The lawn appears to be closely mown so great crested newts are not likely to be found in this area of the garden. Nesting birds could be using the vegetation near the house.

No surveys are needed but a precautionary working method will be required. It must include the following:

All building materials to be stored on hard standing or on pallets, as far as possible from hedgerows, scrub or potential habitat.

Any excavations must be covered at night or be fitted with a small animal escape ramp

No fires can be lit on site.

Waste must be stored in a skip and not be allowed to accumulate in piles which could be used by wildlife. Any chemicals and fuels must be stored carefully and away from potential wildlife habitat.

Any animals found on site should not be handled but be allowed to move away to a place of safety on their own. Although unlikely, if any great crested newts are found all work must stop and Natural England must be called to determine whether a license will be required.

Any vegetation to be removed to facilitate the development must be removed outside of bird nesting season (which is usually between the beginning of March and the end of August) or if this is not possible then only after being checked for nesting birds by a suitably qualified ecologist up to 24 hours before the start of works. If any active nests are found, work must stop and a 5 m buffer must be erected around the nest to protect it from disturbance until after the birds have fledged and left the nest.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist