

Ecology response 20 3 26 for F/26/101022 Unit 6, Chalcroft Business Park, Burnetts Lane, Southampton, SO30 2PA

Proposed installation of an industrial door on the NW elevation

Gina Aftanas

20/3/26

I have reviewed the site photos. The building does not have any potential bat roost features, so no surveys are required. The applicant must propose what biodiversity enhancements they can include and where they think these can be installed. Bird and bat boxes can be installed on the boundary vegetation if it is under the control of the applicant.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

17/3/26

There are records of bats near this site. To determine whether any surveys will be required I need to review close up photos taken in good light of all areas of the roof, fascia, soffits (standing next to building and looking upwards), flashings, hanging tiles, the elevations to be affected by the proposal and any potential gaps or openings.

For locating bat boxes if possible, we also need photos of where the external lighting is already located.

Biodiversity enhancements will be required in accord with Local Plan policy DM 11 and NPPF (December 2024) paragraphs 187d and 192 b. A bat box and a swift nest box 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://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>

Lisa Malter

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