

Ecology response 12 6 26 for H/26/101418 168 CHURCH ROAD, BISHOPSTOKE, EASTLEIGH, SO50 6DS

New Single Garage With Pitched Roof

Gina Aftanas

12/6/26

I have reviewed the site photographs. The area behind the existing gravel driveway does contain some habitat which would be lost to development which would be suitable for slow worms and common toads. This site is not connected to significant habitat for great crested newts but as this site is in an amber impact risk zone, there is a very small likelihood that they could be found on site.

A precautionary working method for vegetation clearance will be required. This will require a two-stage vegetation clearance process. A copy of this Precautionary Working Method must be kept on site and available for inspection at all times.

If any protected species (i.e. common toads, reptiles, birds, hedgehogs and badger) are discovered during construction or other works on site, which are likely to be affected by the development, works will cease immediately. The owner/ site manager will then seek the advice of a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist and works will only proceed in accordance with the advice they provide.

All clearance works (i.e. clearance of log piles, debris, rough grass etc.) will be undertaken when common reptiles and amphibians are likely to be fully active i.e. during the April to September period and when temperatures are above 10 degrees C.

If any protected species are discovered during clearance or construction, works will cease immediately. The owner/ site manager will then seek the advice of a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist and works will only proceed in accordance with the advice they provide.

Clearance of brash, stones, rocks or piles of similar debris must be undertaken carefully and by hand.

Clearance of tall vegetation must be undertaken using a strimmer or brush cutter with all cuttings raked and removed the same day. The first day vegetation must be strimmed to knee height (approximately 30 cm), working slowly and starting from the driveway towards the back of the garden to allow any animals to move away from the construction area in advance of the cutting.

On the second day, all the vegetation in this area must be mowed short (to a height of approximately 30 mm) working in the same direction. It must be maintained at this short height until the start of construction.

During construction, any trenches left overnight will be covered or provided with ramps to prevent animals falling into the trenches and being trapped. Excavations left overnight should be checked prior to filling. Any open pipes left overnight will be covered. Any

building materials such as bricks, stone etc. will be stored on pallets to discourage reptiles from using them as shelter. Any demolition materials will be stored in skips or similar containers rather than in piles on ground.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

2/6/26

There are records of common toads and slow worms on or next to this site with records of bats nearby.

This site is in an amber impact risk zone for great crested newts.

When development falls into the red or amber zones on the impact risk map, developers MUST prove to their local planning authorities that their development plans pose 'no risk' to great crested newts. The first step is to provide photos of any areas of the garden which would be affected by the development. Aerial photos of the site show that vegetation would need to be removed to implement this proposal. Close up photos of the area that would be impacted by the proposal are required.

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 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>)

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/>

www.bats.org.uk/resources/guidance-for-professionals/landscape-and-urban-design-for-bats-and-biodiversity

<https://ptes.org/my-garden/>

<https://www.ukbutterflies.co.uk/foodplants.php>

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