

Ecology response 21 7 26 for H/26/101110 NETLEY HILL FARM, ST JOHNS ROAD, HEDGE
END, SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 4DG

Raising the roof to create first floor accommodation within the roof space to include 3no.
side and 2no. front dormer windows. Single storey side orangery. Alterations to fenestration
with roof lights.

Alexandra Stone

21/7/26

I have reviewed the Bat Scoping Assessment report by the Ecology Co-op (July 2026). The
building has been assessed as having low potential for roosting bats, however there was no
access to the loft void, so if there were additional features or signs of bats in the loft these
would not have been seen. If access to the loft is provided before the emergence survey,
depending on the results of the first survey, a second emergence survey may be required.

The report states that the need for reptile surveys can be re-assessed once final plans are
provided. If construction of the orangery is on existing hard standing and does not affect
potential reptile habitat then precautionary working methods may be sufficient rather than a
reptile survey.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

26/5/26

I have reviewed the site photos and can see that there is potential terrestrial habitat for great
crested newts, common reptiles, hedgehogs on site. The building has some gaps that could
provide potential roost features for bats or nesting birds.

A preliminary ecological appraisal (PEA) is required. The ecologist doing the PEA should also
recommend the most appropriate biodiversity enhancements in their report. Precautionary
working methods will be required.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

20/4/26

This site is in an amber impact risk zone for great crested newts. There are records of bats,
badgers and common reptiles nearby.

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.

Photos of any areas of the garden affected by the proposal are also 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 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](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://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/>

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>

Lisa Malter

Ecologist