

Ecology response 7 9 26 for H/26/101458 41 HOCOMBE ROAD, CHANDLER'S FORD,
EASTLEIGH, SO53 5SP

Erection of two-storey side and rear extensions, together with alterations to fenestration,
replacement roof covering and external elevational treatment

Dorothy Hei-Tung-Hoh

7/9/26

No objection.

I have reviewed the PEA by CC Ecology (August 2026). The house was assessed as having moderate potential to support roosting bats due to crevices and lifted roof tiles. Two bat emergence surveys were carried out and no bats were seen emerging.

No habitat for great crested newts or reptiles was found within the areas that would be impacted by these proposals.

Proposed enhancements to the garden include leaving unmown borders, sowing native wildflowers, and installation of a compost heap and log pile; Installation of a swift nest box on the house, and bat boxes on buildings and trees; and planting of native fruiting shrubs. The location of these enhancements must be marked on a plan to ensure that they are in the appropriate locations. This can be agreed before determination or can be conditioned.

Any changes to exterior lighting must follow the guidelines set out in Annex 4. Further information is available at [Guidance Note 8 Bats and Artificial Lighting | Institution of Lighting Professionals \(theilp.org.uk\)](https://www.theilp.org.uk/Guidance%20Note%208%20Bats%20and%20Artificial%20Lighting%20-%20Institution%20of%20Lighting%20Professionals.pdf).

In the unlikely event of any bats being found during demolition or construction, all work must stop immediately, and Natural England must be informed. Additional information is available on the Bat Conservation Trust website at <https://www.bats.org.uk/advice/im-working-on-a-building-with-bats/ive-found-a-bat-during-works>.

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). If this is not possible then vegetation can be cleared only after being checked for nesting birds by a suitably qualified ecologist in the early morning 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.

Any excavations or open pipes will need to be covered at night, or provided with a small animal escape ramp (a rough board at a shallow angle) to allow animals to escape if they fall in. If animals are found on site, they should not be handled but must be allowed to move away to safety on their own. Any excavations or open pipes will need to be covered at night, or provided with a small animal escape ramp (a rough board at a shallow angle) to allow animals to escape if they fall in. If animals are found on site, they should not be handled but must be allowed to move away to safety on their own.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

12/6/26

This site is in a red impact risk zone for great crested newts. There are records of bats, water shrews, and hedgehogs nearby, with slow worms, common toads and dormice in the wider area.

A preliminary ecological appraisal (PEA) is 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 suitable for this building. The ecologist who does the PEA should recommend the most appropriate enhancements for 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](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