

Ecology response 16/9/26 for H/26/101800 12 MALCOLM ROAD, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 5BG

Side extension to dwelling including rear dormers and erection of detached double garage to front garden.

Charlie Vallis

16/9/26

I have reviewed the site photos. The roof has been recently replaced so any potential bat roost features would have been removed at that point.

Photos available on Google Earth dated 7/2025 show that the front garden was well vegetated and contained several trees which have now been removed. A new side fence has been installed, and almost all of the vegetation has been removed from the front garden.

The side of the house contains the driveway and a small area of vegetation in front of the bin storage area. This includes a stand of potentially invasive non-native bamboo at the left side of the garage. This must not be allowed to spread into the wild.

No surveys are required at this point, however biodiversity enhancements must be incorporated into the new extension and the new garage if this application is permitted.

A biodiversity enhancement plan can be agreed before determination or can be conditioned. The gable ends of the proposed extension would be suitable for built in bat and swift nest boxes. See previous response for additional information.

Surface water drainage arrangements for the proposed garage will also be required.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

4/8/26

There are records of bats, hedgehogs and water shrews near this site and records of slow worms in the wider area.

To determine whether any surveys will be required I need to review close up photos taken in good light of all areas of the house including 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:

[Building a resilient garden for a changing climate / RHS Gardening](#)

<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

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