

Ecology response for H/26/102106 11 BROWNHILL ROAD, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 2EB

Alterations & Extension with Loft conversion & dormers, stepped access to rear and installation of entrance gates (revised scheme to H/26/101491)

Charlie Vallis

29/9/26

No objection: precautionary working methods and biodiversity enhancements required.

My ecology responses (16/7/26 and 26/3/26) for the previous application H/26/101491) are still valid for this amended proposal.

This site is in an amber impact risk zone for great crested newts. There are records of bats, nesting swifts and hedgehogs nearby.

I have reviewed the site photos and do not see any potential bat roost features. A precautionary working method for great crested newts, hedgehogs and nesting birds will be required.

Biodiversity enhancements can be agreed before determination or can be conditioned. The location and specification of the enhancements must be shown on an annotated plan.

Please could you add the following informatives to the decision notice:

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>.

In the unlikely event of any great crested newts being found during demolition or construction, all work must stop immediately, and Natural England must be informed.

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 up to 24 hours 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.

All building materials to be stored on hard standing or on pallets, as far as possible from hedgerows, scrub or potential habitat.

Any excavations must be covered at night or be fitted with a small animal escape ramp.

No fires can be lit on site.

Waste must be stored in a skip and not be allowed to accumulate in piles which could be used by wildlife.

Any chemicals and fuels must be stored carefully and away from potential wildlife habitat.

Any animals found on site should not be handled but be allowed to move away to a place of safety on their own.

Biodiversity enhancements will be required in accord with Local Plan policy DM 11.

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/> - 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>

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Ecologist