

Ecology response for H/24/96732 68 CHALK HILL, WEST END, SOUTHAMPTON, SO18 3DB

Extension of basement level to rear with ground and first floor rear extensions including terrace (Resubmission of application H/22/93889)

Claire Campbell-Best

13/2/24

The ecology response for this application is the same as the ecology response for the previous application H/22/93889. I don't see any changes between the two proposals which would affect ecological concerns.

There are records of bats, hedgehogs, swifts and badgers near this property and an area of woodland at the western boundary. I don't see any potential bat roost features on the building.

Please could you add the following informative 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>.

A CEMP containing a precautionary working method to protect small mammals during construction will be required.

If badgers or signs of badgers are found on site, all work must stop and Natural England must be notified. Standing advice on badgers is available on line at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/badgers-advice-for-making-planning-decisions>.

If exterior lighting is to be used, a wildlife sensitive lighting plan will be required.

Biodiversity enhancements are required. A bat brick/box and swift brick/ 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>)

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.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>

Lisa Malter

Ecologist