

Ecology response for DC/24/96832 GROUND FLOOR, 103 BOURNEMOUTH ROAD,
CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 3AE

Application for discharge of Conditions 7 (Landscape scheme) and 13 (Biodiversity net gain) of planning permission F/22/94159 for 'Single storey extension to existing commercial building (Use Class E, excluding E(b), (d), (g)ii, iii and (f)), including new refuse and cycle storage'.

Rebecca Altman

20/2/24

Condition 7 Landscape Scheme

The Planning statement includes a planting schedule table and the information that the mixed native hedge is to be maintained at a height of 1.5 0 2.0 m. This information needs to include that the hedge must be maintained to provide a constant supply of flowers fruit and seeds available to wildlife. To achieve this, after the hedge is established, it must be pruned on a three-year rotation with the top and alternate sides pruned in successive years.

Condition 13 Biodiversity Net Gain

I have reviewed the Biodiversity Net Gain and Ecological Enhancement Plan by Arun Ecology (November 2023). Section 4.2.10 recommends that the hedgerow should include 5% from a choice of climbers such as honeysuckle, bramble, ivy and native clematis, but these have not been included in the planting schedule table in the planning statement. These plants were included in the hedgerow mix because they provide nectar and pollen for a variety of insects, so should be added to the mix of plants in the hedgerow or mixed scrub planting areas. This is important because the invertebrate population needs food sources as well as shelter. Bats and insect-eating birds depend on the presence of these insects for their food. Night scented flowering plants such as honeysuckle also attract moths as food for bats.

The ecological enhancement plan should also include the location of the hedgehog holes in the fence on the eastern site boundary.

A compliance check, monitoring and maintenance is included in these recommendations (section 4.6). I recommend that once the amendments listed above have been made, condition 13 can be partially discharged. Full discharge will depend on the submission of the results of the compliance check, to be done within 12 months of completion.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist