

Ecology response for H/24/96787 1 SMITH GROVE, HEDGE END, SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 0JH

Extensions and alterations to roof to include increased ridge height and 1no. rear dormer to create second floor accommodation.

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There are records of bats near this site. Photos of this house available on Google maps show an area of wooden cladding on the front gable end and two Velux windows on the visible side of the roof. To determine whether a survey is required I need to review close-up photos of the entire roof, both gable ends, fascia, soffits, flashings and areas around the Velux windows.

Biodiversity enhancements are required. A bat box/brick and a swift nest box/brick 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.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://stagbeetles.ptes.org/how-to-build-a-log-pile/>

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