

Ecology response amended for F/23/96534 ALLINGTON MANOR, ALLINGTON LANE, WEST END, SOUTHAMPTON, SO50 7DE

Conversion of existing outbuilding to [1.no](#) 1-bedroom dwelling and erection of associated detached garage

Rachael Morris

28/2/24

I have reviewed the site photos. There are no potential bat roost features. A precautionary working method for great crested newts will be required. They are not likely to be using any areas with gravel or paving but the garden to the front of the existing studio must remain undisturbed. If this is not possible then it must be checked by a suitably qualified ecologist prior to disturbance. Site operatives must be briefed on the identification and ecology of great crested newts. In the very unlikely event that any great crested newts are found on site, all work must stop and ecological advice must be obtained.

The existing hedgerow must be protected from disturbance during construction. Any new closed board fencing must have at least two openings on each side (13 x 13 cm minimum) to allow free passage of small animals through the gardens.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

19/2/24

This site is within a red impact risk zone for great crested newts and there are ponds and records of great crested newts in this area. Allington Lane Pond SINC is located to the south. There are also records of bats nearby.

Photos are required to show the existing outbuilding and all areas of the property which would be affected by the construction and occupation of these proposed buildings.

In addition to any precautions/mitigation for great crested newts (to be determined), biodiversity enhancements and surface water drainage information will be required.

A bat brick and a swift brick may be appropriate for this building along with enhancing the garden for pollinators.

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.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](http://www.bats.org.uk/resources/guidance-for-professionals/landscape-and-urban-design-for-bats-and-biodiversity)

<https://ptes.org/my-garden/>

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