

Ecology response for H/24/96919 11 OAKMOUNT AVENUE, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH,  
SO53 3AB

Two storey side and rear extension with raised decking in rear garden (Resubmission  
application)

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11/3/24

This site is in an amber impact risk zone for great crested newts. In addition to bats, there are records of stag beetles and hedgehogs. Slow worms have been recorded along the railway embankment to the east of this site. Although I don't see any obvious suitable habitat on the aerial photos available on Google maps, a precautionary working method will be required to protect these species during the construction phase. This must include covering excavations and open pipes at night or installing a small animal escape ramp. Any piles of materials must be left on hard standing such as on pallets. Any small animals found on site must not be handled but be allowed to move to a place of safety on their own.

I have reviewed the Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment (PRA) by Phillips Ecology (February 2024). The house has been assessed to have moderate bat roost suitability and will require at least two presence/absence surveys to be carried out during the survey season (May to August inclusive). If any bats are seen emerging or re-entering, a third survey (before the end of September) may be required to inform a Natural England mitigation license application.

As the presence of protected species is a material consideration, these surveys must be completed before the application can be determined. The bat survey report will provide details and location of any mitigation and enhancements.

The Bat Conservation Trust recommends installing a bat brick/box at least 4 m above the ground (rather than the 3 m recommended in the report), 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)).

Lisa Malter

Ecologist