

Ecology response for H/24/96945 68 BURSLEDON ROAD, HEDGE END, SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 0BZ

Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension following demolition work to existing conservatory

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This site is in a green impact risk zone for great crested newts. There are records of slow worms, common lizards, adders, and bats nearby, with hedgehogs in the wider area.

I have reviewed the site photos. There are tiles to the side of the glass panels of the existing single storey roof which have some gaps which would be suitable features for roosting bats. The soffits and main roof tiles appear to be in good condition.

From the aerial photo of the garden available on Google maps I don't see any suitable habitat for great crested newts, reptiles or hedgehogs.

A preliminary bat roost assessment and biodiversity enhancements are required.

A bat brick and a swift brick may be appropriate for this building, however they should not be located on the rear elevation where light spillage from the roof lanterns would shine up on them.

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

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

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