

Ecology response amended for H/24/96825 HOE MOOR HOUSE, DODWELL LANE,
BURSLEDON, SOUTHAMPTON, SO31 1AB

Listed Building Consent: Installation of 36no. solar panels to main house and garage

Claire Campbell-Best

13/3/24

The Ecological Assessment by Peach Ecology is dated August 2016, was considered valid for one year from the issue date and is therefore roughly 8 years out of date. The proposal for which this report was submitted was *to demolish a small section of the existing house and construct a new swimming pool with pool room and garage, this will involve the clearance of shrubs and trees on a section of land within the garden, new tennis courts have also been proposed on an area of lawn which was previously a tennis court.*

At that time brown long-eared bat droppings were found and after emergence surveys the existing garage was classified as a day roost for brown long-eared and common pipistrelle bats.

This application for installation of solar panels on the house and the garage will require a new preliminary bat roost assessment. The background information from the previous report will not need to be redone for this report (Sections 2.3 Description of site and surrounding area, Section 4 desk study or the habitats on site) however a new inspection by a suitably qualified ecologist of the roof and loft spaces of the house and garage will be required. Bat access tiles on the eastern, western and southern aspects of the new attic roof were required as mitigation for the previous application. A precautionary working method will be required to demonstrate that these areas would not be disturbed during the installation of the proposed solar panels.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

28/2/24

There are records of bats very close to this site and the installation of solar panels will affect the roof. A preliminary bat roost assessment is required.

Biodiversity enhancements will be required. A bat brick and a swift 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>)

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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