

Ecology response amended for H/24/96902 2 HOME FARM, ST JOHNS ROAD, HEDGE END, SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 4DF

Two-storey rear extension

Alex Stone

18/3/24

I have reviewed the site photos. This is a recently built house, with amenity grass around the building. I don't see any suitable habitat for bats, badgers, stag beetles and common reptiles in the area proposed for the extension. A precautionary working method for these species can be conditioned. This must include the following:

Excavations must be covered at night or fitted with a small animal escape ramp (slanted rough board) and checked in the morning;

no fires to be lit on site;

all building materials must be stored on hard standing or on pallets;

any chemicals must be stored securely; and

any animals found during construction should not be handled but be allowed to move to a place of safety on their own.

New exterior lighting should be avoided, but if necessary for security purposes, then the latest updated lighting guidance note (GN08/23) should be followed. This is available at [Guidance Note 8 Bats and Artificial Lighting | Institution of Lighting Professionals \(theilp.org.uk\)](https://www.theilp.org.uk/Guidance%20Note%208%20Bats%20and%20Artificial%20Lighting).

Please could you add the following informative to the decision notice:

In the unlikely event of any bats being found during demolition or construction, all work must stop immediately, and Natural England must be called. Additional information is available on the Bat Conservation Trust website at <https://www.bats.org.uk/advice/im-working-on-a-building-with-bats/ive-found-a-bat-during-works>.

A biodiversity enhancement plan can be conditioned or be provided prior to determination.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

12/3/24

This site is in an amber impact risk zone for great crested newts. There are records of bats, badgers, stag beetles and common reptiles nearby.

The proposals will affect the roof and possibly some of the garden. Close up photos are required of the entire roof, flashings, fascia, soffits, and chimney, as well as the walls, and windows and garden in the area of the proposed extension.

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](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/>

Lisa Malter

Ecologist