

Ecology response amended for H/24/96647 38 YARDLEY ROAD, HEDGE END,
SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 0HQ

Increased dormers to both north and south elevations with additional side dormer to north elevation

Claire Campbell-Best

9/4/24

I have reviewed the Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment by Chase Ecological Consultancy (March 2024). The building has been assessed to have moderate bat roost potential due to gaps in the cladding and vertical hanging tiles on the north and south facing dormer windows *which would offer suitable daytime roosting opportunities for crevice dwelling species of bats*. Figures 4 and 5 show examples of the gaps between the timber cladding boards that could be accessed by bats. Figures 6 and 7 show additional gaps within the vertical hanging tiles.

As explained in the report, best practice guidelines specify that buildings with moderate bat roost potential require 2 emergence surveys, at least three weeks apart between May and August.

The presence of protected species is a material consideration, so the surveys and the Phase II bat survey report must be submitted prior to determination. Recommendations for mitigation, compensation and enhancement can only be provided once these surveys have been done.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

25/1/24

There are records of bats very near this site and the proposal involves works to the roof. From the photo of the house available on Google maps, the existing dormers appear to be covered with hanging tiles. 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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