

Ecology response for F/24/97313 David Lloyd Southampton West End, Botley Road, SO30 3XA

Retention of 2no. padel courts and seating area with associated 8no. flood lights, glass panels and mesh fencing (retrospective application)

Clare Martin

17/5/24

Since this is a retrospective application, the main issues are lighting, surface water drainage and biodiversity net gain.

These courts are within the area between the car park and the existing tennis courts. The lighting diagram shows no light spill beyond the car park area.

These courts are sited on an existing tennis court and existing hard standing so there would be no change to the existing surface water drainage.

Although 10% biodiversity net gain is not required as mentioned in section 6.34 of the Planning Statement by Lichfields (April 2024), some biodiversity enhancements are still required in accord with Local Plan policy DM 11 and NPPF paragraph 180. These can be made in the form of improvements to the existing landscaping on site or provision of bird boxes or bat boxes in a suitable location.

Additional information on biodiversity enhancements 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/>

<https://www.ukbutterflies.co.uk/foodplants.php>

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