

Ecology response amended for H/24/97322 33 UPPER NORTHAM ROAD, HEDGE END,
SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 4EA

Single storey side and rear extensions

Dorothy Hei-Tung-Hoh

28/5/24

I have reviewed the site visit photos. I do not see any potential bat roost features visible in these photos. The garden is mostly closely mown amenity lawn and is separated by what appears to be continuous close board fencing from the stream, trees and woodland of the SINC and LNR. The garden is not suitable habitat for great crested newts, slow worms, lesser spearwort, stag beetles and hedgehogs. The shrubs may attract nesting birds, but they would not be impacted by this proposal.

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>

The precautionary working methods needed are that all building materials must be stored on hardstanding and no fires should be lit on site. If any animals are found during construction, they must not be handled and be allowed to move to a place of safety on their own.

Biodiversity enhancements as described in the previous response should be shown on a plan.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

17/5/24

This site is in an amber impact risk zone for great crested newts. The stream at the rear of the property is a tributary of the River Hamble. Wildern Local Nature Reserve and Bridget Mary Garden SINC are located at the rear of the property. There are records of bats, slow worms, lesser spearwort, stag beetles and other notable invertebrates, and hedgehogs close to this property.

I need to review close up photos of the entire roof, soffits, fascia, flashings, windows and rear garden to determine whether any surveys will be required.

Precautionary working methods will be required to prevent any impact on the stream, trees or woodland.

Biodiversity enhancements will be required in accord with Local Plan policy DM 11 and NPPF paragraph 180. 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/>

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

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