

Ecology response for H/24/97366 DERRY DACY, PEEWIT HILL, BURSLEDON, SOUTHAMPTON, SO31 8BL

Erection of new first floor level and roof over existing dwelling extended under Permitted Development Rights along with temporary changes to existing ground levels.

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28/5/24

This site is in a red impact risk zone for great crested newts. There are records of common lizards, slow worms, and adders nearby. There are records of bats, hazel dormouse, harvest mouse and badgers very close to this site. Nesting birds are also likely to be present.

There is a green corridor to the east of the site. This corridor is connected to the Peewit Hill SINC and the Windhover Netley Common South SINC. Additional development in this area would cause an unacceptable level of disturbance to the SINC.

The photo of the house on Google maps (July 2023) shows a very large area at the front of the house cleared to bare ground. Even though permitted development may have been used to extend the house, the homeowner still has responsibilities to protected species under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended. A preliminary bat roost assessment is required.

A precautionary working method to protect these species during construction will be required. Additional information must be provided on the proposed changes to existing ground levels and how the impacts on these species would be mitigated.

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>)

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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