

Ecology response for H/24/97430 16 BRIDGE CLOSE, BURSLEDON, SOUTHAMPTON, SO31 8AN

The conversion of an existing detached single storey garage at the rear of the property to a self-contained annex

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This site is in a green impact risk zone for great crested newts. There are records of bats, stag beetles, and hedgehogs near this site. There are records of nesting swifts in the wider area.

The site is adjacent to Land North of Bridge Road SINC on the northeastern boundary. This is designated for semi-improved grasslands which retain a significant element of unimproved grassland.

Aerial photos show trees at the rear of the property. What is the distance between the rear of the proposed annex and the SINC boundary? To determine whether any surveys are required I need to review photos of the garden and the existing garage (interior and exterior).

Biodiversity enhancements will be required in accord with Local Plan policy DM 11 and NPPF paragraph 180. A bat box may be appropriate for this building.

The Bat Conservation Trust recommends installing a bat 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))

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.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/advice/how-you-can-help-birds/nestboxes/nestboxes-for-small-birds/>

<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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