

Ecology response amended 24 6 24 for F/24/97452 SAINSBURY'S SUPERMARKET, LEIGH ROAD, EASTLEIGH, SO50 9FH

Installation of [3.no](#) air source heat pumps and [1.no](#) air condenser with associated fencing on the roof of existing store following removal of existing plant.

Rachael Morris

24/6/24

I have reviewed the amended proposed site plan, proposed roof plan, and proposed elevations. The addition of a bat box and a mesh cage for the plant are appropriate. The bat box should be located in the darkest area that would be exposed to the sun for part of the day. The indicative position of the proposed bat box appears to be an appropriate location unless there is a streetlamp or security light illuminating it. It should be checked to see whether any car head lights from cars using the 8 additional car parking spaces to be created when the existing condensers are removed would illuminate this position.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

13/6/24

I have reviewed the photos of this area and do not see any evidence of nesting birds or features that would attract bats.

Please could you add the following informatives 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>

If evidence of an active bird's nest is found during construction, work must stop and a 5 m buffer must be erected around the nest to protect it from disturbance until after the chicks have fledged and left the nest.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

12/6/24

There are records of bats and nesting birds, including swifts, close to this site. To determine whether any survey is needed, I need to review photos of the existing plant proposed to be removed.

Further information is required for the protective netting system proposed in the Refrigerated Plant Layout (option1) plan by Sainsbury's (February 2024, rev 04) to ensure that it will not provide an entrapment hazard for birds or bats.

The de minimus exemption from providing 10% Biodiversity Net Gain applies to this site, however there is a requirement to provide some biodiversity net gain in accord with Local Plan policy DM 11 and NPPF paragraph 180.

Bat boxes, swift nest boxes or a sparrow terrace can be installed elsewhere on the building to meet this requirement.

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>)

The following websites provide additional information:

<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>

Lisa Malter

Ecologist