

Ecology response for H/24/97628 14 WINCHESTER STREET, BOTLEY, SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 2AA

Rear dormer and loft conversion

Claire Campbell-Best

27/6/24

There are records of bats near this site. I have reviewed photos of the house on Google maps. I don't see any potential bat roost features on the front of the house. The image from Feb 2023 shows a rear extension being built which was permitted under H/21/92055. The Preliminary Ecological Appraisal for that application (Pro Vision, May 2022) assessed the building as having negligible potential for roosting bats.

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>.

I have no ecological objections. Care must be taken not to disturb any bat or bird boxes which may have been added as enhancements in the previous application. A bat licensed ecologist is required if any previously installed bat boxes need to be moved. If a bird box needs to be moved it can only be done outside of nesting season (generally considered to be March-August, although some birds may nest outside these months).

Biodiversity enhancements will be required in accord with Local Plan policy DM 11 and NPPF paragraph 180. Since bat and bird boxes would have already been added, some of the other enhancements on the list below may be appropriate for this proposal.

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>

Lisa Malter

Ecologist