

Ecology response for H/24/97154 245 HURSLEY ROAD, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH,  
SO53 1JQ

single storey side and rear extensions with rear facing dormer

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9/4/24

The stream that flows along the eastern rear boundary of the property is a tributary of the Monks Brook, which is a tributary of the River Itchen. This site is in an amber impact risk zone for great crested newts. There are records of grass snakes, slow worms and common toads nearby which could be travelling along the watercourse from Hocombe Mead SINC to the north of the site or from Cuckoo Bushes Lane SINC to the south of the site. There are also records of bats, hedgehogs, stag beetles, and the notable plants lesser spearwort and annual knawel.

To determine whether further surveys will be required I need to review close up photos taken in good light of all areas of the roof, fascia, soffits (standing next to building and looking upwards), flashings, hanging tiles and any potential gaps or openings.

The Bats and Buildings brochure from the Bat Conservation Trust (<https://cdn.bats.org.uk/uploads/pdf/Bats-and-Buildings.pdf?v=1634310101>) has a very good diagram to show places bats may use in buildings on page 3 of the brochure.

Photos of any areas of the garden affected by the proposal are required. I need to be able to see whether any invasive species might be present. A precautionary working method will be required if invasive species are present to keep them from spreading into the wild.

A CEMP will be required and can be conditioned. This must contain a precautionary working method to protect reptiles, amphibians, hedgehogs, stag beetles and notable plants. It must also contain methods that will be used to protect the stream from pollution including sediment from the building works.

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](http://www.bats.org.uk/resources/guidance-for-professionals/landscape-and-urban-design-for-bats-and-biodiversity)

<https://ptes.org/my-garden/>

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