

Ecology response for H/25/98866 1 ASHLEY GARDENS, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH,
SO53 2JH

Single storey rear extension

Gina Aftanas

18/2/25

There are records of bats, hedgehogs and nesting swifts in this area.

The photo of the house available on Google maps (image capture August 2024) shows that there are hanging tiles on the rear elevation. They appeared to be in good condition at that time. The fascia board and soffits above the rear upper windows may have some gaps but the resolution of that photo is not high enough to determine this. Although the soffit and fascia will not be directly affected by construction of the proposed single storey extension, if bats are using this as a roost feature, light spill from the proposed roof window could shine more light on this area. There is already a streetlamp outside the house, so this may not be a problem, it may already be too light for bats. Photos of the rear elevation are required to determine if there are gaps in the rear fascia and soffits.

Biodiversity enhancements will be required in accord with Local Plan policy DM 11 and NPPF (December 2024) paragraphs 187d and 192 b. A swift nest box may be appropriate for the gable end of this building. Gaps for hedgehogs could also be made under the concrete bases of the existing closed board fence.

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://www.rhs.org.uk/science/conservation-biodiversity/wildlife/plants-for-pollinators>

<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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