

Ecology response for H/24/98362 14 THOROLD ROAD, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 5BT

Two storey side extension and raising of ridge to form habitable accommodation with dormers within roof space (Resubmission of H/24/97714)

Dorothy Hei-Tung-Hoh

30/10/24

I have reviewed the Bat Survey Report by Hampshire Ecological Services (August 2024). The building was assessed to have low bat roost suitability, and one bat activity survey was carried out in line with the government guidelines and BCT good practice guidelines. No bats were seen entering or leaving the building during the survey. Bats are a mobile species, so may move between roost sites. The report notes that this survey data is valid for 12 months, so if work has not started by next August, an update walkover survey will be required.

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>.

The proposals for biodiversity enhancement listed in section 6 of the report are sound and should be implemented.

As this proposal has the potential to impact the garden areas, precautionary working methods for hedgehogs, amphibians, and stag beetles will be required before the start of works. This can be conditioned and should include the following information:

Any excavations or open pipes will need to be covered at night or provided with an escape ramp (rough board at a shallow angle) to allow animals such as hedgehogs and amphibians to escape if they fall in.

All chemicals and hazardous materials must be stored safely in lockable cabinets to prevent them from being accessed by hedgehogs. Waste must be kept in locked containers or removed from site daily.

Any long grass, piles of vegetation, dead wood, fallen leaves, or building materials which could shelter small mammals must be dismantled/cleared by hand to ensure that no animals become trapped.

If any animals are found on site, they must not be handled but be allowed to move away a safe area on their own.

If any hedgehogs appear to be in distress, a hedgehog rescue worker should be contacted. Information is available on the website of the British Hedgehog Preservation society at <https://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/found-a-hedgehog/>.

Lighting must not be left on at night.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist