

Ecology response for H/25/100076 89 KINGSWAY, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 1FD

Two storey side extension following the demolition of the existing garage. Single storey rear extension. Demolition of the existing porch to replace with a new oak frame porch. With internal alterations.

Charlie Vallis

15/10/25

This house is a confirmed bat roost. There are also records of hedgehogs nearby. The hedges proposed to be reduced would provide good habitat for nesting birds and might be used by hedgehogs for foraging or shelter.

### **Bats**

I have reviewed the bat survey report by Vesper Conservation and Ecology (August 2025). I am satisfied with the proposed mitigation. Due to the location and type of proposed disturbance this mitigation will avoid the need to obtain a European Protected Species Mitigation license from Natural England.

The mitigation can be conditioned and must conform with the working method outlined in the report. Photographic evidence of the installation of the bat tiles must be provided at the end of the works.

The recommended condition wording must include the following:

- Work must be done outside of the bat active season (in this case not during May through September)
- Any roof lining must be bitumen felt as it does not have fibres that can snag bats.
- Any work that breeches the roof void must be done during the winter months, and a sheeted off area must be created so that the work does not disturb the internal roof void. The ecologist must supervise the installation of the plastic sheet.
- A toolbox talk must be delivered to the building contractors, explain ways of working.
- In the event of any bats being found during demolition or construction, all work must stop immediately, and Natural England must be informed. 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>.
- An internal inspection by the ecologist must occur immediately before the start of works.
- Tile removal in the proposed breach area will be supervised by a suitable qualified ecologist or their agent. The roof strip will be done by hand with each tile inspected before and after removal. Once the area of tiles has been adequately stripped then works can carry on with limited supervision. A suitably qualified ecologist must be easily contactable if bats are discovered.
- Work on the roof must be undertaken as quietly as possible i.e. no extraneous noise (loud radios etc).

- Once the new roof construction has been finished the work must be checked by the ecologist before the sheeting can be removed.

### **Nesting birds and hedgehogs**

A precautionary working method must be used to prevent harm to wildlife that could be using this site such as hedgehogs which have been recorded nearby. It should include:

- All building materials to be stored on hard standing or on pallets, as far as possible from hedgerows, scrub or potential habitat.
- Any excavations must be covered at night or be fitted with a small animal escape ramp
- No fires can be lit on site.
- Waste must be stored in a skip and not be allowed to accumulate in piles which could be used by wildlife. Any chemicals and fuels must be stored carefully and away from potential wildlife habitat.
- Any animals found on site should not be handled but be allowed to move away to a place of safety on their own.

Any vegetation to be removed to facilitate the development including any tree work must be removed outside of bird nesting season (which is usually between the beginning of March and the end of August). If this is not possible then vegetation can be cleared only after being checked for nesting birds by a suitably qualified ecologist up to 24 hours before the start of works. If any active nests are found, work must stop, and a 5 m buffer must be erected around the nest to protect it from disturbance until after the birds have fledged and left the nest.

### **Biodiversity enhancements**

Biodiversity enhancements will be required in addition to the required mitigation in accord with Local Plan policy DM 11 and NPPF (December 2024) paragraphs 187d and 192 b. This could include a swift nest box or planting for pollinators.

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/>

<https://www.ukbutterflies.co.uk/foodplants.php>

Lisa Malter

Ecologist