

Ecology response 10 2 26 for PN/26/100792 49-51 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF

Prior approval for partial change of use from commercial, business and service (Use Class E) to [8.no](#) 1-bedroom flats (Use Class C3) at first and second floor.

Katie Lasham

10/2/26

I don't see any potential bat roost features, so no surveys are required. No objections.

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 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>.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

27/1/26

There are records of bats very close to this site. To determine whether any 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, the elevations to be affected by the proposal and any potential gaps or openings.

Please be advised that although planning permission may not be required for this proposal, wildlife protection laws still apply. The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) is the primary legislation that protects wild animals, plants, and habitats in the UK. It lists the species which are protected by law along with their resting places and the non-native invasive species which must not be allowed to spread into the wild. If you suspect that protected or invasive species may be affected by your development, it is your responsibility to get an ecology survey and implement the recommended mitigation measures.

The following resources may be helpful

The Wildlife Trusts <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/uk-wildlife-law>

Bat Conservation Trust <https://www.bats.org.uk/>

CIEEM <https://cieem.net/i-need/finding-a-consultant/>

Crown Prosecution Service *Wildlife Offences* available at: <https://www.cps.gov.uk/legal-guidance/wildlife-offences>

Biodiversity enhancements A bat box, a swift nest box and a sparrow terrace may be appropriate biodiversity enhancements 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](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.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>

Lisa Malter

Ecologist