



Dear David,

APP/24/00096 | Demolition of existing buildings and erection of a supported housing building for mothers and children (Use Class C2) with associated access and parking. | Garage Compound, Whitsbury Road, Havant

Thank you for consulting me on this application.

The application is accompanied by an Ecological Assessment Report (ABR Ecology, January 2024). The site contains areas of hard surfacing and two rows of garages, with minimal vegetation present. I am content that the site is not of significant value in terms of habitats. Subsequently, the site is not considered suitable for supporting protected and notable species. There are records of foraging/commuting bats from the wider area but the buildings on site are considered to offer negligible potential for roosting bats and the absence of any substantial vegetation is unlikely to attract foraging bats. There are records of Hedgehogs from the immediate area and it is likely that this species will occur in surrounding gardens and greenspaces.

Overall, I am content that the site is of very limited biodiversity value and that ecological impacts are essentially negligible.

If you are minded to grant permission, can I suggest that ecological measures are secured by condition.

Development shall proceed in accordance with the ecological avoidance, mitigation, compensation and enhancement measures as detailed in the Ecological Assessment Report (ABR Ecology, January 2024) unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Reason: to provide ecological protection and enhancement in accordance with the Environment Act 2021, Conservation Regulations 2017, Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, NPPF, NERC Act 2006 and Policy CS 11 of the Havant Borough Core Strategy March 2011.

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Tristan

Tristan Norton

Principal Ecologist

Planning Services, Havant Borough Council, Public Service Plaza, Havant, PO9 2AX

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