

APP/17/01001 - Colt International Ltd, New Lane, Havant, PO9 2LY - Application to determine whether prior approval is required for the method of demolition of buildings including slab removal and any proposed restoration of the site.

Thank you for consulting me. The application is accompanied by a "Bat Dusk Emergence/ Dawn Return Surveys" report (WYG, June 2017). The report confirms the likely absence of roosting bats from the building on site following the dusk and dawn surveys carried out in May and June 2017.

I have therefore no concerns that this development would adversely affect any statutory or locally-designated sites of wildlife importance, or any legally protected or notable habitats or species.

I would however suggest you add the following informative notes:

- Birds nests, when occupied or being built, receive legal protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). It is highly advisable to undertake clearance of potential bird nesting habitat (such as trees, buildings etc.) outside the bird nesting season, which is generally seen as extending from March to the end of August, although may extend longer depending on local conditions. If there is absolutely no alternative to doing the work in during this period then a thorough, careful and quiet examination of the affected area must be carried out before clearance starts. If occupied nests are present then work must stop in that area, a suitable (approximately 5m) stand-off maintained, and clearance can only recommence once the nest becomes unoccupied of its own accord.
- Bats and their roosts receive strict legal protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended). All work must stop immediately if bats, or evidence of bat presence (e.g. droppings, bat carcasses or insect remains), are encountered at any point during this development. Should this occur, further advice should be sought from Natural England and/or a professional ecologist.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Kind regards,
Maral

Maral Miri

**Senior Ecologist
Ecology Team**