

Dear Selina,

APP/21/00521 | Demolition of conservatory and erection of single storey rear and side extension, with enlargement of front elevation dormer. | 24 Havant Road, Hayling Island, PO11 0PX 21.0611

Thank you for consulting me on this application. Thank you for your patience.

The application is not accompanied by any ecological information and I have therefore carried out my own non-exhaustive desk-based assessment using the application documents, online sources and GIS mapping. Whilst of limited scale, the proposals would result in construction activity within close proximity to sites listed in the Solent Waders & Brent Goose Strategy (SWBGS): these sites form supporting habitat for the nearby Solent Special Protection Areas (SPA). SWBGS sites H49D and H49F are situated within c.30m of the site. It is well-established that novel construction noise can result in disturbance of bird species up to distances of 2-300m. With respect to SWBGS sites there is potential for disturbance impacts only during the overwintering season which extends between 1 October and 31 March.

In common with advice from Natural England, it is necessary for further information to be provided. Havant Borough Council, as the 'competent authority' with respect to the Habitats Regulations, should screen this proposal for potential likely significant effect on SPA supporting habitat. I would echo NE's comments that any necessary mitigating measures can be contained within a Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP). This should, where impacts are identified, include details of measures to avoid/minimise noise and visual disturbance.

NPPF, Circular 06/2005 and Natural England Standing Advice on Protected Species, require that planning decisions are based on full, up-to-date ecological information and it is essential that all necessary survey, assessment and mitigation information is available to the LPA prior to determination, particularly in the case of protected species, which are a material planning consideration. This will enable the LPA to determine the application on the basis of full knowledge about the ecological impacts of the proposal and to ensure that any impacts can and will be mitigated, and are acceptable.

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

Kind regards,

Tristan

Tristan Norton

**Senior Ecologist
Ecology Team**

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Coronavirus (Covid-19)

Hampshire County Council's response to the Covid-19 is available here (<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/coronavirus>).

In line with Government advice to reduce non-essential travel and work from home where possible, Ecology officers are now working remotely. Whilst we will endeavour to conduct our services in a timely manner and to meet statutory timescales where we can, there may be some impact to the services we deliver. We will ensure that we keep all applicants / interested parties informed of any further impacts to our services should they arise. The Council's response also means that no non-essential site visits or face to face meetings will be undertaken until further notice. Essential and contractual surveys may continue take place where there is no risk to the surveyor or the public, and in line with Government advice. This will be reviewed on an on-going basis.



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Specialist Environment Services provides data, advice and assessments for ecology, heritage and landscape.