

Dear Rob,

**APP/25/00611 39 Portsdown Hill Road, Havant, PO9 3JU**

Thank you for consulting me on this application. The application is not accompanied by any ecological information. I have therefore carried out my own non-exhaustive desk-based assessment using the application documents, online sources and GIS mapping. The proposed works will entail substantial disruption of existing roof materials and any roof void/s below, as well as areas of hanging tiles. These areas of the building may offer potential for legally protected species including bats. It is not possible for me to conclude that protected species may not be present and impacted.

I would recommend that the applicant provides an ecological assessment, to be provided by a qualified ecologist. The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) ([www.cieem.net](http://www.cieem.net)) holds a database of suitably qualified ecologists. An ecological assessment will determine whether there is any evidence of protected and notable species, and whether the proposed works are likely to result in impacts to those species. Unless the qualified ecologist can conclude that there is no reasonable likelihood of protected species being present (due to negligible potential) or that if present they are not to be impacted by the works, it is likely that further ecological survey work will be required prior to determination of any application. The results of any further surveys should be used to provide an assessment of the likely ecological impacts of the proposed works and to inform any mitigation, compensation and enhancement measures.

NPPF, Circular 06/2005 and Natural England Standing Advice, 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 Local Planning Authority prior to determination, particularly in the case of protected sites, habitats and species, which are a material planning consideration. This will enable the Local Planning Authority to determine the application on the basis of full knowledge about the potential ecological impacts of the proposal and to ensure that any impacts can and will be mitigated.

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

Kind regards,

Tristan

**Tristan Norton**

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