



Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment
19 Church Path, Emsworth, PO10 7DP
November 2025
On behalf of Chalk Creatives

Quality Assurance		
Report date:	Version:	Author:
11 th November 2025	1	Emily Luck, BSc (Hons), MCIEEM, MRSB
Disclaimer:	<p>This report has been prepared by Imprint Ecology in its professional capacity as consultants, in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the contract with the commissioning party. It is issued solely for the commissioning party's use, and no part of this report may be reproduced or distributed by any means without prior written permission from Imprint Ecology. Unauthorised third-party use of this report is at their own risk.</p> <p>Information and recommendations in this report should be considered only within the context of the current proposals. This document does not constitute legal advice. For legal matters, please consult a qualified legal professional.</p>	
Report conditions:	<p>The content is provided in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management's (CIEEM) Code of Professional Conduct. The methods and recommendations in this report are based on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing (CIEEM, 2017) • Guidelines for Accessing, Using, and Sharing Biodiversity Data in the UK (CIEEM, 2020, 2nd Edition) • Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (Bat Conservation Trust, 2023) <p>Copyright © Imprint Ecology 2025</p>	

Contents

1.	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
2.1	BACKGROUND AND PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT.....	5
2.2	PERSONNEL	5
2.3	PURPOSE OF THE REPORT.....	5
2.4	JUSTIFICATION FOR BAT SURVEYS.....	7
2.5	VALIDITY	7
3.	RELEVANT PLANNING POLICY AND CONSERVATION LEGISLATION.....	8
3.1	PLANNING POLICY	8
3.2	BATS	10
3.3	HEDGEHOGS	11
3.5	WILD MAMMALS	11
4.	METHODS	12
4.1	DESK STUDY	12
4.2	SITE WALKOVER AND BAT ROOST ASSESSMENT.....	12
4.3	SITE INSPECTION CONSTRAINTS.....	13
5.	RESULTS.....	14
5.1	DESIGNATED SITES	14
5.4	OTHER PROTECTED SPECIES.....	19
6.	EVALUATION.....	20
6.1	DESIGNATED SITES	20
6.2	PROTECTED SPECIES.....	20
7.	ECOLOGICAL ENHANCEMENTS.....	22
8.	CONCLUSION	24
9.	REFERENCES.....	25

1. Executive Summary

Imprint Ecology was commissioned by Chalk Creatives to undertake a Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment (PBRA) at 19 Church Path, Chichester, PO19 1JH, in support of a planning application for a two-storey extension to an existing dwelling.

A site visit, including an internal and external inspection of two buildings on-site was carried out by a Natural England Level 2 bat licensed ecologist in October 2025. No signs of bats were found, and the building is assessed as having **negligible suitability for roosting bats**. Standard, precautionary mitigation measures are recommended, and no further bat surveys are required for this application.

No significant ecological impacts are anticipated as a result of the proposed works, provided the recommended mitigation measures are followed. As a proportionate enhancement for wildlife on-site, the installation of an integrated or external Woodcrete (or WoodStone®) bat roosting feature/bat access tile and a bird box is recommended in line with Policies DM8 and CS11 in the Havant Borough Core Strategy (2011).

2. Introduction

2.1 Background and Proposed Development

Imprint Ecology was commissioned by Chalk Creatives to undertake a Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment (PBRA) at 19 Church Path, Emsworth, PO10 7DP (central grid reference: SU74820600), hereafter referred to as 'the site'. See Figure 2.1 for an aerial view of the site and Figure 2.2 for the locations of the building surveyed as part of this assessment. The proposals involve a two-storey extension to an existing dwelling. This report has been prepared to support a planning application to Havant Borough Council.

2.2 Personnel

This report has been prepared by Emily Luck, BSc (Hons), MCIEEM, MRSB, Director of Imprint Ecology. As a Full member of the Royal Society of Biology (RSB) and the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM), Emily upholds the highest standards of professional practice and is bound by their respective Codes of Professional Conduct. Emily holds a Natural England Level 2 Class Licence for Bats (2024-12034-CL18-BAT). She has experience managing mitigation projects for bats in southern England and sits on the committee of Sussex Bat Group.

2.3 Purpose of the Report

This report presents the findings of an ecological assessment of all structures on-site relevant to the proposed development. The aim of this report is to identify and present any potential ecological constraints the proposals may pose to bats or other protected species. It also provides recommendations for further surveys, impact avoidance, mitigation, and biodiversity enhancements, where necessary.

Under the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) have a legal obligation to consider the potential presence of protected species, such as bats, prior to determining planning applications. Where works may impact bats or their roosts, sufficient survey effort must be undertaken to demonstrate presence or likely absence, and where necessary, an appropriate mitigation strategy must be proposed to ensure no offences will occur. This report satisfies that requirement and provides the necessary ecological information to enable the LPA to make an informed decision.

Figure 2.1 – Location of the site. Map data ©Google Earth 2025

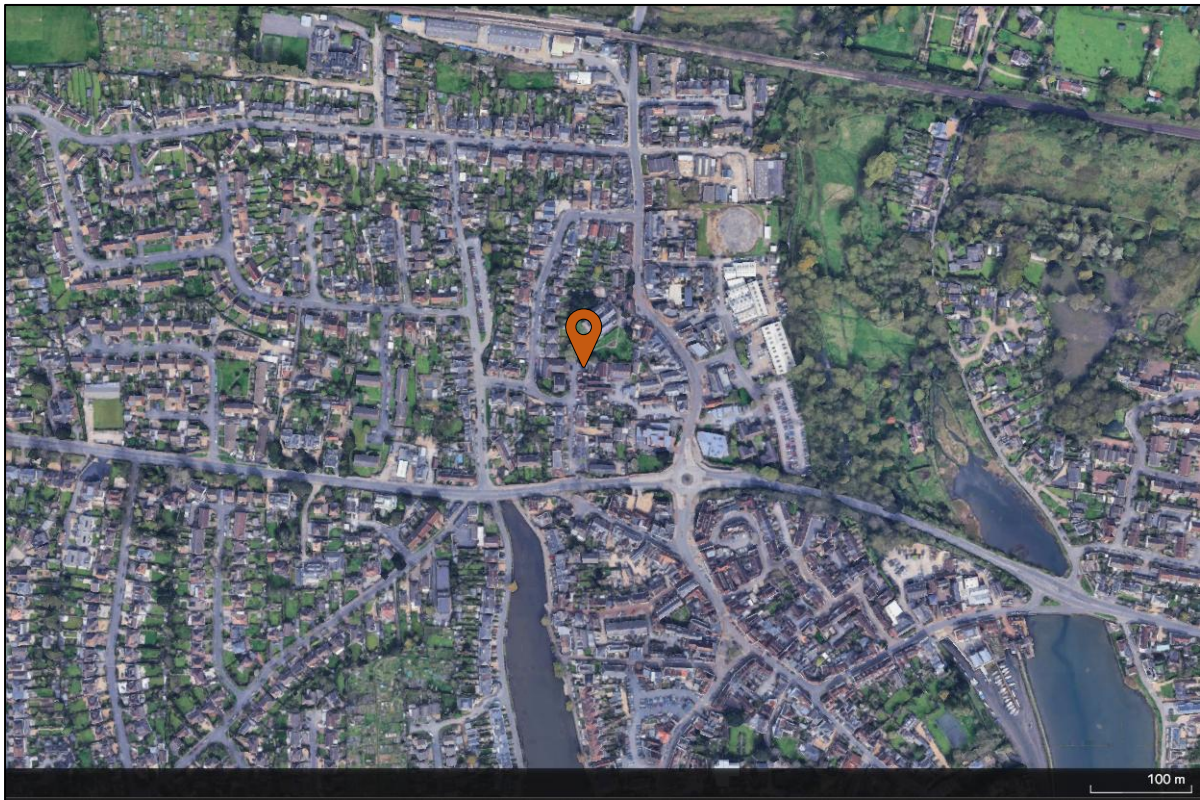


Figure 2.2 – Location of the buildings surveyed in red. Map data ©Google Earth 2025



2.4 Justification for Bat Surveys

Bat surveys are required to ensure that developments of any scale do not contribute to the progressive loss of bat habitat. The UK has 17 breeding bat species, which are all legally protected, and several of which are of high conservation concern. All “common” bat species have also experienced population declines largely due to habitat loss and the reduction of natural roosting features such as ancient trees and traditional buildings. Over several centuries, the rapid loss of natural roosting sites has led many bat species to adapt to using not only rural properties but houses in urban settings including modern buildings, many of which now support a large proportion of known bat roosts. Bats can live for decades and show strong fidelity to their roosts, returning year after year, which makes the assessment of buildings prior to development particularly important.

2.5 Validity

The report remains valid for up to 12 months from the date of issue. If there are any changes to the proposals or the site during this period, a suitably qualified ecologist should be consulted to re-assess the site.

3. Relevant Planning Policy and Conservation Legislation

3.1 Planning Policy

3.1.1 National Planning Policy

The latest National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2024) was published in December 2024. Paragraph 187 states that planning policies and decisions must contribute to and enhance biodiversity and the natural environment by:

- Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, biodiversity sites, geological features, and soils in line with statutory designations.
- Recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, including the benefits of trees, woodlands, and agricultural land.
- Maintaining the character of undeveloped coastal areas while improving public access where appropriate.
- Minimising impacts on biodiversity and delivering net gains, including the establishment of resilient ecological networks and features supporting priority species such as swifts, bats, and hedgehogs.
- Preventing environmental harm from soil, air, water, and noise pollution, as well as land instability.
- Improving local environmental conditions, including air and water quality, informed by relevant policies such as river basin management plans.
- Remediating degraded, contaminated, or unstable land to enhance ecological value.

Paragraph 193 states that local planning authorities must apply the following principles when determining planning applications:

- Avoid significant harm to biodiversity where possible; if unavoidable, harm must be mitigated or compensated for, or planning permission should be refused.
- Development that affects Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) should not be permitted unless benefits clearly outweigh potential harm.
- Loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (e.g., ancient woodland, veteran trees) should be refused unless there are exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy.
- Development that enhances biodiversity should be supported, particularly where it secures measurable net gains or improves public access to nature.

In addition to the NPPF, Circular 06/2005: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation says, *“It is essential that the presence or otherwise of protected species, and the extent that they may be affected by the proposed development, is established before the planning permission is granted, otherwise all relevant material considerations may not have been addressed in making the decision.”*

Circular 06/2005 also provides statutory direction on biodiversity protection within the planning system. It clarifies legal obligations under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, and other key legislation. It outlines:

- The importance of ecological surveys and assessments in development proposals.
- The duty of local authorities to consider biodiversity in planning decisions, ensuring compliance with UK and European laws.
- Requirements for the mitigation hierarchy, ensuring avoidance, mitigation, or compensation for biodiversity impacts.
- The need for protected species licences where development affects legally protected species.

3.1.2 Local Planning Policy

Policies DM8 and CS11 in the Havant Borough Core Strategy (2011) are relevant for ensuring biodiversity and ecology are considered during planning applications, as follows:

Policy DM8: Conservation, Protection and Enhancement of Existing Natural Features
Development must: protect natural features such as trees, hedgerows, streams, ditches, ponds, and soils from damage or loss; integrate retained features sympathetically into the design, ensuring their long-term survival; provide new landscaping that uses native species and local materials, with arrangements for future maintenance; and maintain linked green spaces and safeguard their visual amenity and contribution to local character.

Policy CS11: Protecting and Enhancing the Special Environment and Heritage of Havant Borough. Development should: conserve and enhance key landscape and townscape character identified in the Borough assessments; protect and, where possible, enhance designated habitats and geological features (SPA, SAC, Ramsar, SSSI, SINC, LNRs, ancient woodland); support habitat creation, tree planting, and hydrological enhancement through mitigation and adaptation measures; manage development near heritage assets to protect conservation areas, listed buildings, and archaeological sites; encourage biodiversity surveys and SINC designations; work with conservation groups and landowners to improve biodiversity understanding, access

management, and land stewardship; protect wildlife corridors, prevent habitat fragmentation, and allow for species movement in response to climate change; retain green gaps between settlements and protect high-quality agricultural land; and follow guidance from the Solent Disturbance and Mitigation Project to avoid harm to coastal habitats and bird species.

3.2 Bats

British bats are fully protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Additionally, all bat species are protected under Schedule 2 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 which defines European Protected Species (EPS). Bats and their habitats receive additional protection via the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act, 2000, under the Bonn Convention (Agreement of Bats in Europe), and in Appendix II and III of the Bern Convention. Seven British bat species are listed under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) 2006. This combined legislation means that it is a criminal offence to:

- Deliberately kill, injure or capture a bat
- Deliberately disturb bats, including in particular any disturbance which is likely to impair their ability to survive, to reproduce or to rear or nurture their young, or their ability to hibernate or migrate, or which is likely to affect significantly their local distribution or abundance
- Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of a bat
- Damage or destroy, or obstruct access to, any structure or place which any bat uses for shelter or protection
- Disturb bats while occupying a structure or place used for that purpose

A bat roost is a place or structure which a bat uses for shelter or protection. Bats are loyal to roosts, returning annually to the same place. Therefore, the legislation protects bat roosts regardless of whether or not bats are present at the time of survey or construction work. If proposed development work is likely to destroy or disturb bats or a bat roost, Natural England would be consulted to obtain a European Protected Species Mitigation Licence (EPSML), which would be subject to appropriate measures to safeguard bats. With suitable approved mitigation, exemptions can be granted from the protection afforded to bats under Regulation 39 by means of an EPSML. The NERC Act 2006 requires due consideration be given to biodiversity and its potential enhancement when considering proposed developments. The NERC Act defines a number of bat species as species of principal importance for consideration during planning.

3.3 Hedgehogs

Hedgehogs are protected under Schedule 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), making it illegal to intentionally kill or capture them using certain prohibited methods. They are also listed as a Species of Principal Importance under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006, which requires public authorities, including local planning authorities, to consider their conservation in decision-making. Hedgehogs are particularly vulnerable during hibernation in the winter months and in spring when they are building nests and caring for dependent young.

3.4 Nesting Birds

Nesting birds are protected under several key pieces of legislation to prevent their disturbance or harm, particularly during the breeding season. The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) makes it illegal to intentionally kill, injure, or take any wild bird, and to damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built. Some species, listed under Schedule 1 of the Act, receive additional protection. The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) adds further protections for bird species considered of European importance, particularly through the designation of Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

The term "nesting" encompasses all stages from adults building a nest or gathering nest materials to the point when chicks have fledged. To avoid disturbing nesting birds, works that could impact nests should generally be avoided from March to August inclusive. However, precaution should be given during February when some bird species can begin nesting, especially in milder conditions. Disturbance during these stages, such as interfering with eggs or nests with chicks, can cause stress or even nest abandonment, resulting in the failure of the breeding attempt.

3.5 Wild Mammals

The Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996 provides legal protection to all wild mammals in the UK, making it an offence to intentionally cause unnecessary suffering through actions such as mutilation, beating, kicking, drowning, or any other form of harm. The legislation ensures that wild mammals, including species such as foxes, deer, rabbits, and small mammals, are protected from cruelty, neglect, and deliberate mistreatment. This Act complements other wildlife legislation by providing a general level of welfare protection to species not otherwise specifically covered under existing laws.

4. Methods

4.1 Desk Study

A desk study on 10th October 2025 involved reviewing online geographical databases and mapping tools to assess the site's proximity to key ecological features, including designated sites, priority habitats, and protected habitats, within a 1km radius. Specifically for bats, which have large home ranges, the search for granted European Protected Species Mitigation Licences (EPSMLs) was extended to a 2km radius. A data search from the local biodiversity records centre was not obtained, as it was deemed disproportionate and unlikely to alter the assessment outcomes. The following resources were used during the study:

- Havant Planning Portal
- Google Earth Pro Satellite Imagery
- LandApp by DigitalLandSolutions Ltd
- Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC)
- Ordnance Survey (OS) Explorer (1:25,000 scale)

4.2 Site Walkover and Bat Roost Assessment

As part of this survey, the ecologist not only assesses the site's suitability for bats but also examines all ecological features to identify any additional constraints, such as the presence of other protected species, in proportion to the proposals. For example, nesting birds are often incidentally found during bat surveys. Any such observations are recorded and well-documented, as they may influence the timing and methodology of works. This approach applies even if no bats or suitability for bats are found.

A visual inspection of the site was undertaken during daylight hours on 10th October 2025 by Emily Luck (qualifications in Section 2.2) at 16:00 hrs. The presence of potential roosting features (PRFs) and access/exit routes which bats could use to enter these features were surveyed. Evidence of use by bats was also looked for, such as scratch marks, urine stains, lack of cobwebbing, feeding remains e.g. moth wings, droppings, and actual bats. An assessment of potential commuting routes and surrounding habitat was also undertaken to determine their potential to support bats. Bat PRFs are usually found in specific areas, such as joints, cracks, gaps and cavities within structures like mature trees and buildings. These were prioritised as areas to check for bat evidence. Roosting bat evidence is not easy to find and not always visible, so any potential roosting locations were also noted. Following inspection, the building(s) was

categorised as having the following suitability for bats: ‘high’, ‘moderate’, ‘low’, ‘negligible’ or ‘none’. These categories are based on observations made during the survey and in the context of the descriptions laid out in Table 1.

Table 4.1 - Categorisation of bat roosting potential of structures (adapted from Collins, J., 2023).

Suitability	Description
Confirmed bat roost or resting place	Presence of bats or evidence of bats.
High	A structure with one or more potential roost sites that are obviously suitable for use by larger numbers of bats on a more regular basis and potentially for longer periods of time due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat. These structures have the potential to support high conservation status roosts, e.g. maternity or classic cool/stable hibernation-site.
Moderate	A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by bats due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat but unlikely to support a roost of high conservation status (with respect to roost type only, such as maternity and hibernation – the categorisation described in this table is made irrespective of species conservation status, which is established after presence is confirmed).
Low	A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by individual bats opportunistically at any time of the year. However, these potential roost sites do not provide enough space, shelter, protection, appropriate conditions and/or suitable surrounding habitat to be used on a regular basis or by larger numbers of bats (i.e. unlikely to be suitable for maternity and not a classic cool/stable hibernation-site, but could be used by individual hibernating bats).
Negligible	No obvious habitat features on-site likely to be used by roosting bats; however, a small element of uncertainty remains as bats can use small and apparently unsuitable features on occasion.
None	No habitat features on-site likely to be used by any roosting bats at any time of the year (i.e. a complete absence of crevices/suitable shelter at all ground/underground levels).

4.3 Site Inspection Constraints

It is important to note that a single site assessment provides only a snapshot in time; while no bats or signs of bats were observed during the survey, their presence at other times of year cannot be entirely ruled out. The building, surrounding habitats, and any potential connectivity were therefore assessed for their suitability to support bats, even in the absence of direct evidence.

5. Results

5.1 Designated Sites

- Chichester Harbour lies approximately 160m south of the site and is of exceptional ecological importance for its extensive coastal and estuarine habitats that support nationally and internationally significant bird species and populations. Chichester Harbour is protected by the following overlapping designations: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI); Special Protection Area (SPA); Ramsar; and Special Area of Conservation (SAC).
- Brook Meadow Local Nature Reserve (LNR) lies approximately 235m east of the site. It comprises species-rich grassland and wetland habitat along the River Ems, supporting a diversity of flora, invertebrates, and breeding and overwintering birds. The reserve provides valuable foraging and commuting habitat for bats and other wildlife within the local ecological network.
- Singleton and Cocking Tunnels SAC/SSSI lie 10km northeast of the site, beyond the standard 1km search radius. However, the tunnels are protected by a strategic landscape-scale buffer of 12km. Bat flightlines within this buffer area must be protected from unnecessary lighting or habitat fragmentation to prevent severing unlit, natural corridors like tree lines and hedgerows that bats use to reach the tunnels.

5.2 Habitats

Within 2km of the site are a number of protected and priority habitats listed under Section 41 of the NERC Act (2006), which include deciduous woodland, traditional orchard, good quality semi-improved grassland, reedbeds, mudflats, coastal saltmarsh, lowland meadow and chalk stream.

5.3 Bats

The following European Protected Species Licences (EPSL) for bats have been granted within 2km of the site, as follows:

- 2019-42746-EPS-MIT for damage and destruction to the resting place of a common pipistrelle bat, 100m southwest, granted in 2019.

5.3.1 Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment

The site lies within a built-up central area of Emsworth, with church grounds to the north and continuous residential development to the south. There is street lighting present nearby which slightly reduces the location's suitability for bats.

Dwelling

The building is a two-storey red brick structure with decorative stone quoins and brick arches above the windows. The roof is steeply pitched and clad with machine-made clay tiles, all of which appear tight-fitting and in excellent condition, with no lifted or missing tiles noted. Moss growth is present across north and east elevations of the roof but it does not appear to be indicating deterioration or providing crevices that would be suitable for roosting bats. The eaves and bargeboards are in good condition throughout the building, with no gaps or lifted sections visible.

The soffits, fascia and barge boards are a mix of uPVC and timber. They are well-sealed and do not appear to have any damaged sections that would create gaps for bats to rest or access under. The gable ends contain vented brickwork, but no access points or gaps suitable for bats in the masonry itself. The chimney on the southern slope appears to be well-pointed and in good condition. The rainwater goods are black uPVC in good condition.

Internally the loft void contains exposed timber rafters lined with type 1F bituminous roofing felt that is in good condition, with no visible tears or lifted sections and no daylight penetrating through the roof or eaves suggesting a lack of access points for bats. Fibreglass insulation is laid between joists and wiring and small service conduits are present. No bat droppings, staining, feeding remains, or other field signs were observed during the inspection of the dwelling. Overall, the dwelling offers **negligible bat roost suitability**. No evidence of bats was recorded during the inspection, and no further surveys are considered necessary.

Outbuilding

The outbuilding in the rear garden to be removed to accommodate the proposed two-storey dwelling extension is a small, single-storey structure built of red brick with a hipped slate roof and two timber plank doors. The brickwork appears to be weathered but intact, with no cracks or cavities suitable for bats. The slate roof is in good condition with tight-fitting tiles and no lifted, slipped, or missing slates that could offer roosting opportunities for bats.

The exposed fascia and supporting timbers beneath the eaves appear to be sound and tightly fitted. The timber doors are weathered with flaking paint and small surface fissures but no suitable roosting features. Internally, the roof structure consists of exposed timber rafters and beams supporting bituminous felt in fair condition. The interior is heavily cobwebbed confirming long-term undisturbed conditions and no evidence of bat use. No bat droppings, staining, feeding remains, or other field signs were observed during the inspection of the outbuilding. Overall, the dwelling offers **negligible bat roost suitability**. No evidence of bats was recorded during the inspection, and no further surveys are considered necessary.

Photo 1: Outbuilding interior.



Photo 2: Loft interior.



Photo 3: Loft interior.

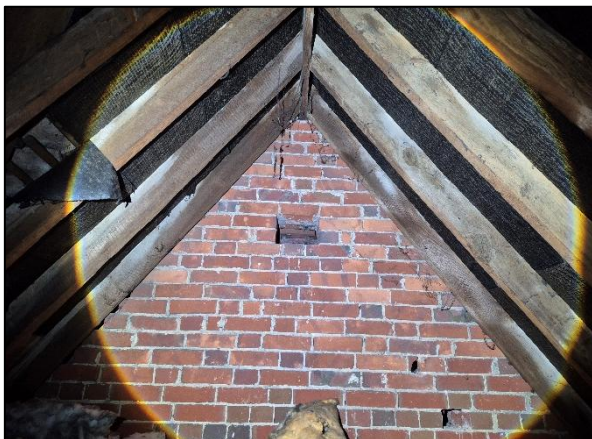


Photo 4: Loft interior.



Photo 5: West elevation.



Photo 6: North roof over porch.



Photo 7: North roof over porch.



Photo 8: North and east elevations.



Photo 9: Roof tiles on north and east elevations.



Photo 10: Well bedded hip tiles.

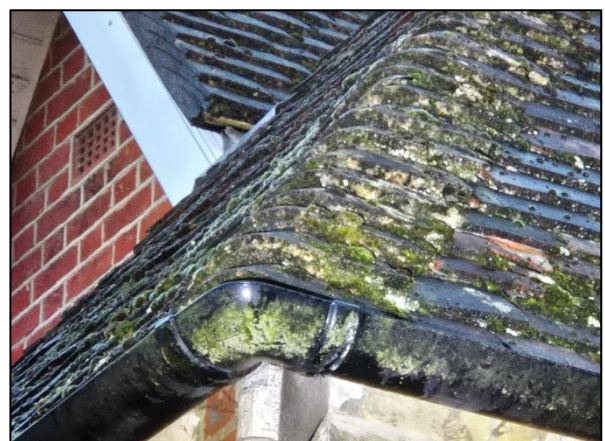


Photo 11: East facing roof tiles.



Photo 12: East facing roof tiles.

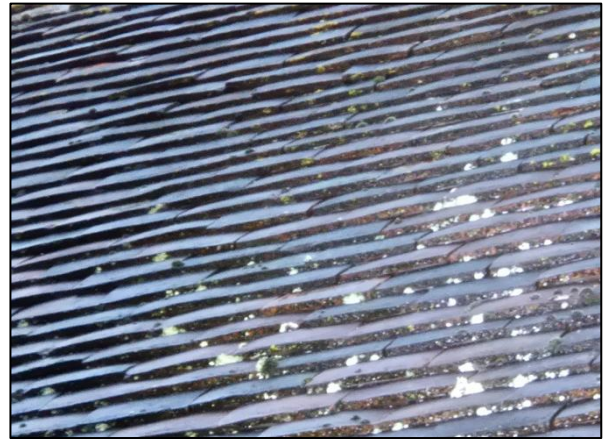


Photo 13: North facing roof tiles.



Photo 14: Tight eaves with bitumen blocking access.



Photo 15: Well fitted soffits and barge boards.



Photo 16: East elevation masonry.



Photo 17: North elevation apex.



Photo 18: West elevation apex.



Photo 19: Rear garden outbuilding.



Photo 20: Outbuilding.

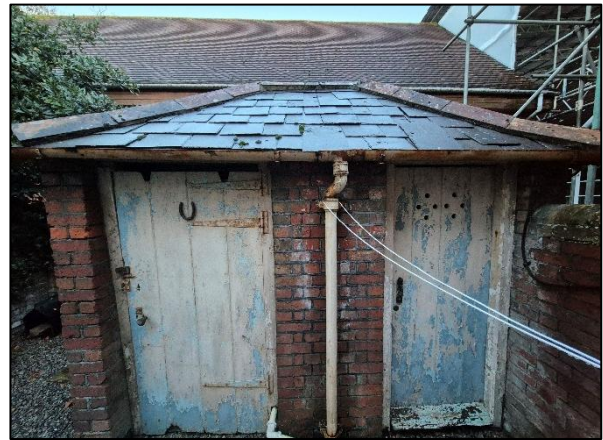


Photo 21: Sun room.



Photo 22: Rear garden looking east.



5.4 Other Protected Species

The small enclosed rear garden comprises areas of patio and gravel, bordered by raised beds containing ornamental shrubs and potted plants. The space is well-maintained and predominantly hardstanding. The garden is enclosed by brick and flint walls. Artificial lighting is present on the dwelling's exterior. The site is considered to provide negligible opportunities for other protected species.

6. Evaluation

6.1 Designated Sites

Potential impacts

None are anticipated.

Mitigation

None required.

Significance of residual effects

No residual effects.

6.2 Protected Species

6.2.1 Bats

Potential Impacts

There is a risk of disrupting potential bat flightlines if additional external lighting is installed during or after works, particularly if directed towards garden boundaries or if there is any uplighting of the building.

Mitigation for Bats

- Lighting - any new lighting will need to be carefully designed to avoid light spill. Artificial Light at Night (ALAN) can disrupt natural bat behaviour by altering foraging efficiency, commuting and social behaviour (Stone et al., 2009). As such, where lighting is intended to be installed for safety or security, the following mitigation measures will be implemented:
 - Motion-activated external lighting to be used in place of continuous illumination, with timers set to a short delay (1-2 minutes) after the last movement.
 - Light intensity will be kept low (e.g. ≤ 500 lumens), using warm white light sources (approximately 2700 K) to reduce blue light content, which is especially disruptive to bats.
 - All external fittings will be installed facing downward and fitted with appropriate shields or cowls to minimise vertical and horizontal light spill.

Significance of residual effects

With mitigation measures in place, there will be no residual effects.

6.2.2 Other Protected Species

Potential impacts

In the absence of mitigation, site preparation activities have the potential to inadvertently harm very low numbers of hedgehogs, reptiles, and other protected animals such as common toads, smooth newts, and foxes that may occasionally cross the site at night. The following mitigation can be collectively applied to protect all these species.

Mitigation for Other Species

- Clearance of any paving/patio/concrete hardstanding should avoid winter and take place during spring, summer or autumn, outside of the winter months (mid-November to mid-February inclusive) as animals may be sheltering or hibernating beneath.
- The removal of piles of soil, rubble, pallets and other materials will be done carefully by hand, and materials will then be stored in a skip or on hardstanding where possible. This will help to prevent small animals from sheltering in piles of debris and becoming injured or trapped.
- Any excavations made will not be left open overnight and fully covered or fitted with escape ramps. Ramps should either be soil slopes or a gently sloping roughened timber plank (maximum 45° angle) to enable animals to escape freely overnight.
- Open pipework will be checked for animals before use and sealed overnight.
- Vehicles will not be parked on grassland overnight to avoid crushing animals that may shelter under them temporarily.
- Vegetation, deadwood, cut tree limbs and other arisings will not be burned on-site.

Significance of residual effects

With mitigation measures in place, there will be no residual effects.

7. Ecological Enhancements

The applicants at 19 Church Path will adhere to Policy NBE 4: Biodiversity by integrating ecological enhancements into the project's designs. The following recommendations have been made for this project:

Species	On-site Enhancements	Examples
Bats	<p>To provide a long-term enhancement for bats, at least one bat roosting feature will be permanently installed on-site, depending on the final design, materials and suitability, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External bat box: an external bat box could be fixed on the south or west elevation of the building. A suitable option is the Vivara Pro Beaumaris bat box. Select boxes made of Woodcrete (or WoodStone®) as they maintain stable internal temperatures. • Bat access tile: alternatively, a bat access tile could be incorporated into the new roof extension. This provides a small, sheltered cavity under the tile for an individual bat to rest in, without needing to allow access into the roof/void itself. The tile is designed to sit discreetly near the surrounding tiles and is visually unobtrusive once installed. It is essential that the bat access tile is not fitted directly over a breathable roofing membrane such as Tyvek, as this type of material can pose an entanglement risk to bats. An external bat box is therefore preferable on sites where breathable roofing membranes are used. • Integrated bat box: an integrated bat box can be installed within the fabric of the new extension walls. These are thermally stable enclosed boxes that provide a simple roosting space and do not allow bats into the interior wall cavity. Finishes can be matched to the building's materials (e.g. coursed brick, render, or unfinished to be clad over). 	<p><i>Vivara Pro Beaumaris</i></p>  <p><i>JustLead Bat Access Tile</i></p>  <p><i>Habibat Integrated Bat Box</i></p> 

	<p>Note: bat boxes should be installed 3-5 metres above ground level, unobstructed by vegetation so that the bats have a clear flight path in, and they should receive some sunlight throughout the day. They should also be positioned away from artificial lighting.</p>	
<p>Nesting Birds</p>	<p>To support nesting opportunities for birds, at least one bird box will be installed on-site. The type and placement of boxes will depend on the available habitat as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree or wall-mounted bird box: a general-purpose bird box suitable for species such as blue tits, great tits, house sparrows, and robins will be installed on a mature tree or sheltered wall. Suitable options include the Schwegler 1B or Vivara Pro Seville or an equivalent design. • Shrub or hedge-mounted bird box: for species that favour dense vegetation, such as wrens and robins, a lower-level box such as the Schwegler 2H or similar can be installed within shrubs, laurel hedging, or climbing plants. • Integrated bird box: an integrated bird box can be built into new extensions or walls. Suitable options include a BirdBrickHouses bird box or mesh-fronted box which can be installed behind cladding with a small access gap. <p>Note: bird boxes should not be installed near very large glass panes or mirror/reflective surfaces, which can disorient birds and increase fatal collision risks. All bird boxes should be installed 2-4m above ground, facing north-west to north-east, away from artificial lighting and they must be left undisturbed during the nesting season (typically March to August inclusive).</p>	<p><i>Vivara Pro Seville</i></p>  <p><i>Schwegler 2H</i></p>  <p><i>BirdBrickHouses integrated bird box</i></p> 

8. Conclusion

The Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment at 19 Church Path, carried out in accordance with Bat Conservation Trust guidelines (Collins, J. 2023), determined that the property offers negligible suitability for roosting and hibernating bats. No further bat or other protected species surveys are required. Should artificial lighting be required, it will be designed in an ecologically sensitive manner to minimise impacts on bats.

Enhancements to support local biodiversity will be integrated into the site to adhere with Policies DM8 and CS11 in the Havant Borough Core Strategy (2011).

9. References

Bat Conservation Trust and Institute of Lighting Professionals (2023) *Guidance Note 08/23 - Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK*.

Bern Convention: Council of Europe. (1979). *Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats* (Bern Convention). Available at: <https://rm.coe.int/1680078aff>

Bonn Convention: United Nations Environment Programme. (1979). *Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals* (Bonn Convention). Available at: <https://www.cms.int>

CIEEM (2017) *Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing*. Second Edition. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester, UK.

CIEEM (2020) *Guidelines for Accessing, Using and Sharing Biodiversity Data in the UK*. Second Edition. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester, UK.

Collins, J. (ed.) (2023) *Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines* (4th edition). The Bat Conservation Trust, London.

HM Government (1981) *Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)*. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69/contents>.

HM Government (2000) *Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000*. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/37/contents>.

HM Government (2006) *Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006*. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/contents>.

HM Government (2017) *The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)*. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/1012/contents>.

HM Government (2021) *National Planning Policy Framework*. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, London. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

HM Government (2005) *ODPM Circular 06/05: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation – Statutory Obligations and their Impact within the Planning System*. Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, London.

MAGIC (2025) *Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside*. Available at: <https://magic.defra.gov.uk/>