

From: Laura Downs <Laura.Downs@naturespaceuk.com>
Sent: 18 March 2026 08:44:30 UTC+00:00
To: "Halima.Chowdhury" <Halima.Chowdhury@horsham.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: DC/26/0335 | Aspen Place Okehurst Lane Billingshurst West Sussex

Good morning Halima,

Planning reference: DC/26/0335 | Aspen Place Okehurst Lane Billingshurst West Sussex

Thank you for consulting us on this application and sending through some site photos. It is considered that the proposed development would present a low risk to great crested newts and/or their habitats. However, as the development is within the amber Impact Risk Zone, as modelled by district licence mapping, I recommend that the following informative should be attached to planning consent:

"The applicant is reminded that, under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), it is an offence to (amongst other things): deliberately capture, disturb, injure, or kill great crested newts; damage or destroy a breeding or resting place; intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to a resting or sheltering place. Planning permission for a development does not provide a defence against prosecution under this legislation. Should great crested newts be found at any stage of the development works, then all works should cease, and a professional and/or suitably qualified and experienced ecologist (or Natural England) should be contacted for advice on any special precautions before continuing, including the need for a licence."

Best wishes,

Laura Downs (*she/her*)
District Licensing Officer (Great Crested Newts) – West Sussex

NatureSpace Partnership

e: Laura.Downs@naturespaceuk.com

m: 07356 159774

w: www.naturespaceuk.com

Company operating hours: Monday to Thursday 09:00 - 17:00





From: Halima.Chowdhury <Halima.Chowdhury@horsham.gov.uk>
Sent: 17 March 2026 18:55
To: Laura Downs <Laura.Downs@naturespaceuk.com>
Subject: RE: DC/26/0335 | Aspen Place Okehurst Lane Billingshurst West Sussex

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Hi Laura,

**DC/26/0335,
Aspen Place, Okehurst Lane, Billingshurst,
Erection of an outbuilding to the rear.**

I refer to your email below, as requested please find attached the site photos.

Kind regards

Halima Chowdhury
Planning Officer

Telephone: 01403 21505
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Email: Halima.Chowdhury@horsham.gov.uk



Horsham District Council, Albery House, Springfield Road, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 2GB

Telephone: 01403 215100 (calls may be recorded) www.horsham.gov.uk Chief Executive: Jane Eaton

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From: Laura Downs <Laura.Downs@naturespaceuk.com>
Sent: 17 March 2026 16:49

To: Halima.Chowdhury <Halima.Chowdhury@horsham.gov.uk>
Subject: DC/26/0335 | Aspen Place Okehurst Lane Billingshurst West Sussex

Good afternoon Halima,

Thank you for consulting us on the above application. I have been reviewing the submitted documentation and wondered if it might be possible to request some site photos of where the development will be located just to get an idea of onsite habitat currently?

Best wishes,

Laura Downs (*she/her*)
District Licensing Officer (Great Crested Newts) – West Sussex

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