



ECOLOGICAL APPRAISAL REPORT:

PINEWOOD COTTAGE
HORSHAM,
WEST SUSSEX,
RH13 6HU

For: NJA Town Planning Ltd on behalf of Mr Nick Warner

Issued by: Wychwood Environmental Ltd

www.wychwoodenvironmental.com

January 2026

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
1.0 INTRODUCTION	5
2.0 METHODOLOGY	6
Habitat Survey	6
Desk Study	7
Survey Limitations	7
Baseline Evaluation Criteria	7
3.0 RESULTS	9
Desk Study	9
Designated Sites	9
Site Location Description	10
Habitat survey	10
Protected Species Survey.....	13
4.0 ECOLOGICAL EVALUATION.....	16
Designated Nature Conservation Sites.....	16
Habitats	16
Protected Species	16
5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS.....	18
6.0 MITIGATION & FURTHER SURVEY.....	19
Designated Sites	19
Habitat	19
Bats.....	19
Amphibians	21
Reptiles	21
Breeding birds	21
Other Mammals.....	21
Dormice	22
7.0 ENHANCEMENTS.....	23
8.0 CONCLUSION	25
9.0 REFERENCES	26

Appendix 1 – Protected Species Legislation.....	27
Appendix 2 – Plans, figures and photographs.	29
Appendix 3- Lighting guidance - the impact of artificial light on bats	30

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Proposed development

- It is understood development proposals include the demolition of the existing dwelling on site and the construction of one new dwelling with associated hard and soft landscaping. The new dwelling will use the existing access off Woodlands Lane. The new dwelling will be constructed prior to the existing dwelling being demolished.
- A few trees will be lost as a result of the proposed development.

Impacts

- The proposed development has the potential to impact roosting bats in the main dwelling on site.
- The proposed development has the potential to impact foraging and commuting bats.
- The proposed development has the potential to impact breeding birds.

- The habitats contained within the site area proposed to be impacted by the proposed works are of low ecological value.

Further recommended surveys

- At least two further emergence (dusk) surveys of the main dwelling are recommended in the active bat season between May and September. Surveys must be spaced at least three weeks apart.

Proposed mitigation

- Mitigation to reduce the impacts of artificial lighting upon foraging bats is detailed.
- Mitigation to avoid impacts to breeding birds has been detailed.

Enhancements

- Native species planting is recommended within the landscaping plan for the site and to replace existing ornamental non-native shrubs.
- Provision of bat roosting opportunities post development is recommended. Further details of enhancements will be subject to the results of the subsequent emergence surveys.
- Provision of bird nesting opportunities post development is recommended.

Conclusions

- Evidence in the form of bat droppings was found in the void of the main dwelling and the main dwelling is a **confirmed roost**. In addition, the dwelling had external potential roost features that offer the potential for crevice-dwelling bats such as the pipistrelle species. Further emergence surveys are recommended in the active bat season.
- The trees on site proposed to be lost had no potential for roosting bats and were of low ecological value.
- Areas of rhododendron *rhododendron ponticum* were present on site and will be impacted by the proposed works. Pontic *rhododendron* is listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act and it should be disposed of legally.
- The survey has shown that the site is of low ecological value. The site has limited potential to support protected species but where their presence is possible then mitigation measures can be implemented to minimise the risk of impacts to any protected species.
- The enhancement measures advised will increase the net biodiversity on site.

Report completed by: Laura Cook BSc (Hons)

Verified by: Dr. Craig Turner MSc MCIEEM FRGS FLS

Date of issue: 5th February 2026

Contacts: Dr. Craig Turner; craig@wychwoodenvironmental.com;
T: 07760234934, W: www.wychwoodenvironmental.com

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Wychwood Environmental Ltd was instructed by NJA Town Planning Ltd on behalf of Mr Nick Warner to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Assessment (PEA) to highlight the possible presence of protected species (e.g. bats, [REDACTED] great crested newts, reptiles, and breeding birds) and/or habitat(s) of ecological/conservation value on the proposed development site located at: Pinewood, Woodlands Lane, Colgate, West Sussex, RH13 6HU (Figures 1-3, Appendix 2). This survey follows an earlier PEA survey undertaken in May 2024 by Matthew Cameron of Wychwood Environmental Ltd.
- 1.2 Surveys are necessary to collect information on habitats/protected species to provide necessary guidance and mitigation advice, to ensure that no valuable habitats/protected species are adversely affected by the proposed development.
- 1.3 The survey was completed to inform the Local Planning Authority (LPA) of any material impacts resulting from the proposed development and to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006) (Section 40) and the Government Circular: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation – Statutory obligations and their impact within the Planning System (ODPM 06/2005, Defra 01/2005). The legislation relating to protected species is detailed in Appendix 1.
- 1.4 Development proposals involve the demolition of the existing dwelling on site and the construction of one new dwelling of a similar footprint close to the existing dwelling and within the current garden setting. The proposed new dwelling will be constructed on an area of amenity grassland with pontic rhododendron *rhododendron ponticum* present (Figures 4-5, Appendix 2). A eucalyptus *eucalyptus globulus* and conifer *pinophyta* tree will be removed as part of the proposed works.
- 1.5 Section two of this report describes the methodologies used for survey work. Section three provides the results of these surveys, sections four and five provide discussion and implications for development, with further surveys and mitigation covered in section six and enhancement recommendations are made in section seven.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

Habitat Survey

- 2.1 A Preliminary Ecological Assessment (PEA) of the site was undertaken, following standard extended Phase 1 habitat survey protocols (IEA, 1995), by Laura Cook BSc (Hons) on 20th January 2026. This involved systematically walking over the site and classifying each parcel of land based on vegetation, into one of approximately 90 habitat types (JNCC, 2010).
- 2.2 A search for any invasive non-native species, as listed under Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended,¹ such as Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) was also carried out.
- 2.3 Any habitats or features of interest and any sightings, signs or evidence of protected or notable fauna or any potential habitats suitable for such species, were assessed as detailed below:
- The suitability of habitats was assessed for amphibians (including great crested newts, *Triturus cristatus*)²;
 - [REDACTED] hairs, bedding, footprints and scratching of trees/ shrubs was noted;
 - The suitability of the habitats was assessed for hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*);
 - Buildings with features potentially suitable for roosting bats were assessed following best practice guidelines as outlined by the survey techniques published by the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT)⁴ and Reason and Wray (2023)⁵. Trees within the development area were also assessed for their potential to support roosting bats (following BCT protocols).
 - Landscape features such as hedgerows, trees and shrubs were also assessed for their potential suitability for bat foraging and commuting;

¹ <http://archive.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-pets/wildlife/management/non-native/documents/schedule9-list.pdf>

² Oldham R.S., Keeble J., Swan M.J.S. & Jeffcote M. (2000). Evaluating the suitability of habitat for the Great Crested Newt (*Triturus cristatus*). Herpetological Journal 10(4), 143-155.

[REDACTED]

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

⁵ Reason, P.F. and Wray, S. (2023). UK Bat Mitigation Guidelines: a guide to impact assessment, mitigation and compensation for developments affecting bats. Version 1.1. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Ampfield.

- The suitability of habitats was assessed for nesting / roosting birds.
 - The suitability of habitats was assessed for dormice (*Muscardinus avellanarius*),
 - The suitability of habitats was assessed for reptiles.
- 2.4 The site was not assessed for water voles (*Arvicola amphibius*) and otters (*Lutra lutra*) due to its location and the lack of suitable habitat present on site.

Desk Study

- 2.5 The Internet database MAGIC (Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside) was searched for any areas with statutory designations within a 2km radius of the site.
- 2.6 Noting the scope and scale of the proposed development involving the construction of a single dwelling within a residential curtilage, a detailed species-level desk study was not deemed necessary, due to the scale of likely impacts.

Survey Limitations

- 2.7 An initial site assessment such as this is only able to act like a 'snapshot' to record any flora or fauna that is present at the time of the survey. It is therefore possible that some species may not have been present during the survey but may be evident at other times of the year. For this reason, habitats were assessed for their potential to support some species, even where no direct evidence (such as droppings) has been found.

Baseline Evaluation Criteria

- 2.8 Based on the desk study and field survey results, an ecological evaluation of the site was undertaken using a combination of evaluation criteria for habitats and species, following the general framework provided by CIEEM⁶ (Table 1).
- 2.9 Where relevant the evaluation was made with reference to the statutory protection afforded to species and habitats. Legal protection does not always correspond to conservation value. Some species [REDACTED] are protected for reasons of animal welfare rather than conservation. Others are of national conservation value but are not protected by law (e.g. some Red Data Book species and UK BAP species).

⁶ CIEEM (2017). Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA).

Table 1. Ecological value criteria used in the ecological evaluation, as outlined by CIEEM.

Ecological Value	Description and Examples
High	Habitats or features that have high importance for nature conservation, such as statutory designated nature conservation sites of international or national importance or sites maintaining viable populations of species of international or national importance (e.g. Red Data Book species, European protected species).
Medium	Sites designated at a county or district level, e.g. Local Wildlife Site (LWS), ancient woodland site, ecologically 'important' hedgerows or ecological features that are notable within the context of a region, county or district (e.g. a viable area of a Priority Habitat on the county BAP or a site that supports a viable population of a county BAP species).
Low	Sites of nature conservation value within the context of a parish or neighbourhood, low-grade common habitats, such as arable fields and improved grasslands and sites supporting common, widespread species.

3.0 RESULTS

Desk Study

Designated Sites

- 3.1 There are two statutory designated sites within 2km of the application site (Figure 11, Appendix 2). These are St Leonards Forest Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), and the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The whole site is within the High Weald AONB, with St Leonards Forest SSSI located approximately 1.4km from the proposed development. St Leonards Forest SSSI is a large area of mixed deciduous woodland with areas of ancient woodland, which include areas of bracken and bramble floor as well as heath in more open areas. The woodland bird population is varied and includes some of the more local species of old woodlands (e.g. all three British woodpeckers). The woodlands also support a population of the purple emperor *Apatura iris*, a butterfly with a restricted British distribution. There is also an area of common land which supports a variety of habitats including heathland, woodland and aquatic habitats which support a range of rare plants, birds and invertebrate. The AONB covers an area of 1,450 square kilometres. The landscape is a mosaic of small farms and woodlands, historic parks, sunken lanes and ridge-top villages, and is the primary reason for designation.
- 3.2 The proposed development site falls within the St Leonard's SSSI Impact Risk Zone. However, this type of planning application, small residential is not one which requires consultation with Natural England by the Local Planning Authority.
- 3.3 The MAGIC (www.magic.gov.uk) study also reveals that there are two European Protected Species (EPS) mitigation licences for bats within 2km of the site (Figure 11, Appendix 2). The closest of which is located 0.7km east of the site was granted in 2014 for the destruction of a resting site for common pipistrelle *pipistrellus pipistrellus*, soprano pipistrelle *pipistrellus pygmaeus* and brown long-eared *Plecotus auritus* bats. The second is located approximately 1.4km to the northeast of the site and the licence granted in 2016 was for the destruction of a resting place for common pipistrelles *pipistrellus pipistrellus*, soprano pipistrelles *pipistrellus pygmaeus* and brown long-eared *Plecotus auritus* bats. No EPSM licences have been granted for great crested newts *Triturus cristatus* or dormice within 2km of the proposed development.

Site Location Description

- 3.4 The site is located just off Woodlands Lane in Colgate, east of the town of Horsham, West Sussex. The site is surrounded by woodland, pasture and other scattered rural properties set within large mature plots all interconnected within the landscape by hedgerows and mature trees (Figures 1-2, Appendix 2).

Habitat survey

- 3.5 The habitats recorded on the site are shown in Photographs 1-25, Appendix 2 and Figure 12, Appendix 2. Habitats present within the redline boundary consist of the following:

- Buildings
- Hardstanding
- Modified grassland
 - Amenity grassland
- Introduced Shrub
 - Ornamental beds
 - Hedgerows
- Bare ground
- Scattered Trees

- 3.6 The application site consists of the main dwelling which is proposed to be demolished after the new dwelling has been constructed on site. A detached garage/sunroom and greenhouse also sit within the site boundary and will be demolished as part of the proposed works. The three buildings are set within a residential garden setting within a wider plot under the same ownership as the site (blue line) but outside of the redline site boundary (Figures 4-5, Appendix 2).

Buildings

- 3.7 There are three buildings on site within the redline boundary (Figures 3-4, Appendix 2). These are the main dwelling (B1), a wooden garage/sunroom (B2) and a glass greenhouse (B3).
- 3.8 The existing dwelling (B1) on site is a detached two-storey house which has been extended over the years (Photographs 1-4, Appendix 2). In most part, the walls were stone with some

areas that were tile hung with concrete hanging tiles (Photographs 1-3, Appendix 2). The tiles were tightly fitted concrete tiles, except along the edges where there were gaps underneath offering potential roost features (PRF's) for crevice dwelling bats such as the pipistrelle species of bat. There was also a lifted hanging tile on the side of the dormer window on the southeast elevation and gaps at the bottom of the rotten wooden window surrounds which also presented PRF's for bats (Photographs 5-7, Appendix 2). The dormer windows on the southeast elevation and the southwest elevation had wooden weather boarding above the windows. The weatherboarding was well weathered but no gaps were visible from the ground level assessment (Photograph 8, Appendix 2). The roof was a complex structure with pitched roofs, dormer windows and areas of flat roof. In general, the tiled part of the roof was in moderate condition with roof tiles lying flat with one another. Along the southwest elevation in particular, the wooden soffits were in poor condition and presented potential roost features (PRF's) for bats (Photograph 9, Appendix 2).

- 3.9 A partial internal inspection of the roof void in the main dwelling was undertaken during the survey. A full inspection of the void could not be undertaken due to the void being unsafe and the quantity of rat and mouse poison in the void (Photograph 11, Appendix 2). The void was a complex structure with limited height. Evidence in the form of hundreds bat droppings was found scattered across the void. The droppings were morphologically consistent with those of the brown long-eared *plecotus auritus* species of bat (Photographs 10-13, Appendix 2). Large quantities of mouse droppings were also found in the void.
- 3.10 The detached garage/sunroom (B2) was a wooden and glass structure with a corrugated fibre roof. The glass allowed light to penetrate to the centre of all structures with a close-fitting doors and wall-to-roof junction (Photographs 14-16, Appendix 2). There was no roof void present in the building (Photograph 16, Appendix 2). The walls were clad with wooden cladding which was tightly fitted and presented no PRF's for bats.
- 3.11 The greenhouse (B3) was a metal and glass structure (Photograph 17, Appendix 2). The building offered no PRF's for bats. The building will be demolished as part of the proposed works.

Hardstanding

- 3.12 There is a tarmac driveway and parking area providing access off Woodlands Lane (Photograph 18, Appendix 2). Around the house and garden area were a series of hardstanding paths in relatively good condition.

Modified Grassland

- 3.13 The main habitat surrounding the main dwelling and alongside the existing driveway on site was amenity grassland (Photographs 19-20, Appendix 2). The amenity grassland was species poor and low in height. Species included Yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus*, common rush *Juncus effusus*, cocks foot *Dactylis glomerata*, annual bluegrass *Poa annua*. Grass was sparse in areas with occasional bare patches.

Introduced Shrub

- 3.14 Introduced shrub was present in two forms within the site, as ornamental beds and as hedgerow structures. There were ornamental beds throughout the garden and mature hedgelines around the garden. The northern and southern boundaries of the garden consisted of predominantly rhododendron *Rhododendron ponticum* hedgerow. The southern hedgerow running the full length adjacent to the road was dominated by rhododendron *Rhododendron ponticum* but also included a section near the front gate that included beech *Fagus sylvatica*, yew *Taxus baccata*, privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*, and cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus*. The northern hedgerow running the full length of the northern garden border was lower and comprised exclusively of rhododendron *Rhododendron ponticum*.
- 3.15 Introduced shrub varied in height and density throughout the site, although species composition was consistently ornamental shrubs, including large specimens of pontic rhododendron *Rhododendron ponticum* (Photographs 21-22, Appendix 2) and cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus*. Species included: pontic rhododendron *Rhododendron ponticum*, azaleas *Rhododendron sp.*, cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* and mahonia *Mahonia aquifolium*.

Bare ground

- 3.16 There were a few areas of bare ground throughout the garden area.

Scattered Trees

- 3.17 There were scattered trees present around the garden including large fir trees *Abies spp.*, eucalyptus *Eucalyptus dalrympleana*, holly *Ilex aquifolium* and beech *Fagus sylvatica*. There were six mature apple trees *Malus domestica* and nine silver birch *Betula pendula* trees in the garden area adjacent to the hardstanding parking area (Photograph 19, Appendix 2).

Invasive species

- 3.18 There were large areas of rhododendron *rhododendron ponticum* around the garden and the hedgelines. The newly constructed dwelling will impact an area of rhododendron which will need to be cleared as part of the proposed works (Photograph 21, Appendix 2). Rhododendron *rhododendron ponticum* is listed in Schedule 9 of the Countryside and Wildlife Act and should be cleared and disposed of legally to avoid further spread.
- 3.19 Overall, the habitats within the garden area of the site were assessed to be of low ecological value although the trees on site had intrinsic value and along with the introduced shrub habitat had site level value to wildlife.

Protected Species Survey

Bats

- 3.20 The garden including the scattered trees on site have high potential to support foraging and commuting bats. In addition, the habitat (e.g. lowland mixed deciduous woodland) surrounding the site offers high-quality foraging habitat on all sides of the site. It is understood a few trees e.g. eucalyptus *eucalyptus sp.*, conifer *pinoyhta sp.* will be impacted by the proposed works; these trees had no potential to support roosting bats and no further surveys of the trees are required. However mitigation is recommended due to the potential impact of lighting from the newly constructed dwelling impacting foraging/commuting lines.

Buildings

- 3.21 There were three buildings within the site boundary: the main dwelling, the garage/sunroom and the greenhouse.
- 3.22 Evidence in the form of bat droppings was found in the void of the main dwelling and the building is a **confirmed roost** as outlined in Table 4.1 of the CIEEM 2023 Good Practice Guidelines. In addition, the house had external features e.g. gaps under hanging tiles, gaps

under the wooden soffit boards, rot holes at the base of some of the windows which offered PRF's to support crevice-dwelling species of bat such as the pipistrelle species. To characterize the roost types/species (if present), at least two emergence/re-entry surveys are required of the main dwelling in the optimal survey season between May and September to comply with BCT survey guidance. Repeat surveys for buildings can only be undertaken at least three weeks apart and conducted during optimal weather conditions (Following BCT protocols).

- 3.23 The garage/sunroom (B2) and the greenhouse (B3) had no evidence of roosting bats and no external features present to support roosting bats. The garage/sunroom and the greenhouse both had **negligible potential** to support roosting bats as outlined in Table 4.1 of the CIEEM 2023 Good Practice Guidelines and no further surveys of these buildings are required.

Amphibians

- 3.24 The majority of the site consisted of buildings, hardstanding, amenity grassland, planted hedgerows, scattered trees and ornamental beds. There are no suitable water bodies present within the site boundary or a 2km radius of the site. The nearest waterbody is Pyefall Gill, a fast-running woodland stream which lies approximately 200m from the site and is not deemed suitable to support amphibian species such as great crested newts *triturus cristatus* due to its fast-running water.
- 3.25 The Nature Space map⁷ illustrates that the 2km radius around the site contains areas of green (moderate habitat suitability) and white (low habitat suitability) category habitat for great crested newt *triturus cristatus*. Therefore, due to the lack of waterbodies on site and within a 2km buffer around the site and the low quality of foraging habitat e.g. amenity grassland on site, the site is unlikely to support great crested newts and no further surveys are required.

Reptiles

- 3.26 The construction of the proposed dwelling will be on an area of amenity grassland and introduced shrub with low potential to support common reptiles. The site is surrounded by other residential properties, farmland, grazing land for horses, treelines and woodland areas. The wider site was assessed as having low potential to support common reptiles. These species do not pose a constraint to the proposed plans and no further surveys for reptiles are required.

⁷ <https://naturespaceuk.com/district-licensing/impact-map/>

Breeding birds

- 3.27 The site consisted of buildings, hardstanding, amenity grassland, introduced shrub, ornamental beds and scattered trees. The habitats within the site offered moderate potential to support common garden bird species e.g. robins *Erythacus rubecula* during the spring/summer months. No further surveys for breeding birds are recommended but precautionary mitigation is advised.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- 3.29 Evidence of deer in the form of deer prints, droppings and a partially broken fence were noted in the garden area adjacent to the driveway (Photograph 25, Appendix 2).

- 3.30 The garden and surrounding area may provide foraging and commuting habitat for hedgehogs if they are present in the immediate local area. The current hedgerow boundaries allow for hedgehogs to commute across the site, although no direct evidence of hedgehogs was found on site.

- 3.31 [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Dormice

- 3.32 There is no habitat within the site that could be considered potentially suitable for supporting populations of dormice. The site supports negligible potential for dormice.

4.0 ECOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Designated Nature Conservation Sites

- 4.1 The nature of the development i.e. small-scale residential would suggest that there would suggest that there would most likely be negligible potential to impact any statutory protected areas. The potential impacts on St Leonard's Forest SSSI and the High Weald AONB as a result of potential increased residential pressure are therefore non-existent with no net gain in residential units. The nature and size of the proposed development does not fall within the threshold to trigger a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA).

Habitats

- 4.2 The site supports the following predominant habitats: buildings, hardstanding, amenity grassland, ornamental planting, introduced shrub, hedgerows and scattered trees. The site supports no Biodiversity Action Plan habitats. The site supports habitats of **low** ecological value with the scattered trees and mature hedgerows being of site value.

Protected Species

Flora

- 4.3 None of the species recorded during the survey are specifically protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) or considered nationally or locally rare (see Preston et al., 2002⁸). Also, none of the species recorded are listed as Species of Principal Biological Importance on Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006 or as Priority Species on the national BAP (UK BAP, 2007⁹).
- 4.4 Mitigation and enhancements for trees and general flora are recommended in Sections 6 and 7.

Fauna

- 4.5 Evidence in the form of bat droppings was found during the internal inspection of the void in the main dwelling. The dwelling also had a number of external features which offered PRF's for roosting bats. The site also has high potential to be used by foraging/commuting bats. It is

⁸ Preston, C.D., Telfer, M.G., Arnold, H.R., Carey, P.D., Cooper, J.M., Dines, T.D., Pearman, D.A., Roy, D.B. & Smart, S.M. 2002. *The changing flora of the UK*. Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, London.

⁹ UKBAP (2007) Report on the Species and Habitat Review: Report by the Biodiversity Reporting and Information Group (BRIG) to the UK Standing Committee, June 2007

understood a few of the trees on site will be lost as part of the proposed construction works, however none of the trees proposed to be lost had potential to support roosting bats.

- 4.6 Habitats within the site e.g. the mature hedgerows could be considered to support **moderate potential** for supporting nesting birds during the spring/summer. Recommendations to enhance the site for nesting birds are made in Section 5. Bird nests are protected from destruction and disturbance by law, refer to Appendix 1 – Protected Species Legislation., mitigation and avoidance are proposed in Section 6.
- 4.7 The site has no waterbodies present. The closest aquatic habitat is Pyefall Gill which lies approximately 200 metres from the site. The site has **negligible potential** to support protected species of amphibians such as great crested newts *triturus cristatus*.
- 4.8 The site has **low potential** to support reptiles which are unlikely to be present in the location of the proposed dwellings footprint i.e. amenity grassland and introduced shrub.
- 4.9 [REDACTED]
- 4.10 The site is known to be accessed by fallow deer and evidence in the form of prints and droppings were found during the site visit. Two/three mammal holes, likely fox holes were also found in the southeastern corner of the site. The site also had the potential to support resting and foraging hedgehogs where they are present in the wider area. The site has **high potential** to support other mammal species such as foxes and hedgehogs.
- 4.11 The site had no suitable habitat for dormice and the site has **negligible potential** to support dormice.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 Wherever possible, negative ecological impacts should be avoided. If this is unavoidable then mitigation and compensation measures will be proposed for adverse ecological effects. In addition, it is best practice to seek positive biodiversity benefits through enhancement measures, in particular with regard to Priority Habitats and Species listed on the national and local Biodiversity Action Plans and the NERC Act 2006.
- 5.2 Section 6 of this report will detail the most appropriate design considerations in ecological terms so that avoidance of harm can be a primary consideration during development design.
- 5.3 CIEEM (2017)¹⁰ endorses the following principle, recommended by the Royal Town Planning Institute (2019)¹¹ for optimising the biodiversity outcomes of planning decisions.
- 5.4 New benefits: seek to provide net benefits for biodiversity over and above requirements for mitigation and compensation.
- 5.5 The provision of compensation/enhancements helps local planning authorities in meeting requirements as stipulated under the National Planning Policy Framework¹², which states that sustainable development should seek to achieve net gains in biodiversity for nature.

¹⁰ CIEEM (2017) *Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater and Coastal, 2nd edition*. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.

¹¹ <https://www.rtpi.org.uk/practice/2019/november/biodiversity-in-planning/>

¹² National Planning Policy Framework. (2012) Department of Communities and Local Government.

6.0 MITIGATION & FURTHER SURVEY

Designated Sites

- 6.1 The development site is within the High Weald AONB and falls approximately 1.4km away from St Leonard's Forest SSSI, given this distance combined with the small scale of the proposals, it is unlikely that the proposed works will have any direct impacts on these statutory designated sites. Furthermore, there is no net increase in residential units. Therefore, the proposals are not likely to cause a negative impact on St Leonard's SSSI or the High Weald AONB.

Habitat

- 6.2 It is understood a few trees e.g. one eucalyptus *eucalyptus sp.* and a conifer *pinophyta sp.* tree will be lost as a result of the proposed construction works of the new dwelling. The trees have no potential for bats and are of low ecological value. Best practice should be followed for retained trees on site (i.e. S5837:2012 Trees in Relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations) to ensure individual trees, including those adjacent to the site that are to be retained are not adversely affected. Any trees over 100 mm trunk diameter, and/or of significant ecological value, should be protected by barriers. Minimum distance between tree trunk and barriers must be either the distance of the branch spread or half tree height, whichever is greater. In all cases, trees must be protected from direct impact and from severance or asphyxiation of the roots.
- 6.3 Any planting within the site as part of the proposed development should use native tree and shrub species that will enhance the biodiversity of the site. See Appendix 4 for details of planting that will enhance the site for foraging bats and other wildlife.

Bats

- 6.4 Evidence in the form of bat droppings were found in the void of the main dwelling on site. In addition, the main dwelling had external features that offered potential for roosting bats. At least two further emergence/re-entry surveys are recommended in the active bat season between May and September to comply with BCT survey guidance. Precautionary mitigation and biodiversity enhancements will be required to be taken into consideration in line with NPFF. Further mitigation measures are dependent upon the results of the emergence (dusk) bat surveys:

- **Timing of works** – as best practice, the main dwelling should be demolished during the Spring (March-April) or Autumn (October-November) to avoid periods when bats are likely to be present within the building and when they are least vulnerable i.e. outside periods of breeding and hibernation.
- **Enhancement roosting opportunities** – pending the results of the emergence (dusk) surveys, it is likely that at least two crevice type (e.g. Schwegler¹³ or Kent Eco Bat box¹⁴) bat boxes should be erected on the site, ideally on existing mature trees providing roosting opportunities for pipistrelle bats. The bat boxes will be sited on trees, best positioned at a height of 4-6 metres. These boxes should be retained in their locations once all building works are complete and thus provide an overall enhancement. Further integrated bat boxes/bricks (e.g. Habibat integrated box¹⁵ or the Integrated Eco Bat Box¹⁶) may also be recommended to be incorporated into the newly constructed dwelling to enhance opportunities for bats on site.
- **Tool box talk** – contractors should be made aware of the possible presence of bats and the legal protection afforded to them and made to work with caution when removing roof and hanging tiles. Tiles should be lifted vertically and removed by hand. Should any bats be found, contractors must cease work immediately and unless present on site, advice must be sought from a suitably qualified and licensed ecologist.

Lighting

- 6.5 The site supports **high potential** to support foraging and commuting bats given the occurrence of good quality foraging habitat within the local and wider landscape. Therefore outdoor lighting used within the vicinity of the newly constructed dwelling should be bat friendly. Lights should be at a low level and angled down or have baffles to prevent unnecessary light spilling into the surrounding area which could disturb foraging bats, especially along tree lines. Security and timed lights should be at a low level and ideally set to be on for as short as time

¹³ https://www.schwegler-natur.de/portfolio_1395072079/fledermaushoehle-2f/?lang=en

¹⁴ <https://www.nestbox.co.uk/products/eco-kent-bat-box>

¹⁵ <https://www.nhbs.com/habibat-bat-box-staffordshire-smooth-red-brick>

¹⁶ <https://www.nhbs.com/integrated-eco-bat-box?bkfno=232521>

as possible. A copy of the BCT 'Statement on the impact and design of artificial light on bats' report is provided in Appendix 3 of this report.

Amphibians

- 6.6 There are no waterbodies on site and no suitable habitat for protected species of amphibians e.g. great crested newts in their terrestrial phase on site. No further surveys for amphibians are recommended.

Reptiles

- 6.7 The site supports very little habitat suitable for populations of common reptile species. No further surveys are required. However, precautionary mitigation measures are recommended that any log piles created during clearance of the site should be dismantled by hand during weather conditions when reptiles may be active (>8°C).

Breeding birds

- 6.8 The site has the potential to support common garden nesting bird species. It is therefore recommended that the removal of suitable nesting habitat occurs outside the bird nesting season, which is generally accepted to extend from March - August inclusive (although dates vary by species and are subject to prevailing weather conditions). If this is not possible the area to be removed should be inspected for evidence of nesting activity by a suitably experienced ecologist no more than 24 hours in advance of clearance. If this identifies any nesting activity the habitat feature should be left undisturbed until nesting ceases and chicks have fledged the nest. If any vegetation removal is undertaken on site during the bird-nesting season, all resultant brash should be immediately removed from the site to prevent birds from nesting in it.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- 6.10 It is recommended that the boundary treatment of the site allow access for local wildlife to continue to move across the site for example through the use of post and rail fencing rather

than close board fencing or by providing gaps in gravel boards although the use of native hedgerows is the preferred boundary treatment over fencing options.

Dormice

- 6.11 There is no suitable habitat on site for dormice, therefore no further surveys are recommended.

7.0 ENHANCEMENTS

- 7.1 In line with local and national policy (NPPF 2024¹⁷), and the requirement to deliver a 10% biodiversity net gain as detailed in the Environment Act 2021¹⁸, the new development should seek to provide biodiversity enhancements. The following suggestions would enhance the site for wildlife.
- 7.2 It is recommended that new native hedgerows and trees (of local provenance) are planted to replace the rhododendron *rhododendron sp.* hedges to the north, east and west along the site boundaries and within the garden. Rhododendron *rhododendron sp* reduces the diversity of plants in its vicinity due to invasive growth and toxins emitted by roots and offers only a short period of flowering. A list of native and non-native species that are beneficial to pollinating insects, produced by the Royal Horticultural Society, is provided in Appendix 4. The replacement of rhododendron *rhododendron sp* (outside of the breeding season) with native flowering and berry producing species, such as RHS pollinator friendly plants¹⁹, would provide resources for birds and insects for a greater length of the year.
- 7.3 Any landscaping plan should take account of this guidance. Furthermore, current areas of the amenity grass could be enhanced with a species rich wildflower seed mixes e.g., Wildflower Native Enriched Turf to enhance diversity which will in turn attract insects, birds and bats.

Refuges

- 7.4 Refuges consisting of well-structured vegetation or debris piles should be provided to ensure long terms sheltering opportunities for various species including hedgehogs and invertebrates.

Bird Boxes

- 7.5 Several bird boxes for different species of bird (e.g. sparrow, tits and starling) should be erected around the site in areas of good cover and out of the reach of domestic cats. These can be placed on retained mature trees and/or integrated on the walls of the newly constructed dwelling. Suitable artificial nesting opportunities would include two 25mm hole opening cavity boxes for small tit species²⁰ and two 32mm hole cavity boxes for larger species

¹⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

¹⁸ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/contents/enacted>

¹⁹ [Plants for Pollinators advice and downloadable lists / RHS Gardening](#)

²⁰ <https://www.nhbs.com/1b-schwegler-nest-box?bkfno=174761>

(e.g. starling and house sparrow) hung over 2.5m up. Additionally, two open boxes²¹ for robins and wrens (approximately 1.5-3m in altitude) and ideally two swift bricks (high on the newly constructed dwelling)²². All boxes should be sited near vegetation and not south facing, to avoid overheating.

Bat Roosting Opportunities

- 7.6 As mentioned in Section 6 'Mitigation and Further Survey', pending the results of the emergence (dusk) surveys, it is likely that at least two crevice style bat boxes should be erected on mature trees around the site along with integrated boxes incorporated into the newly constructed dwelling.

²¹ [Example open box](#)

²² [Example swift box](#)

8.0 CONCLUSION

- 8.1 It is understood proposed plans include the demolition of the existing two-storey detached dwelling on site and the construction of one new detached dwelling within the site boundary. The new dwelling will be constructed prior to the existing dwelling being demolished. The new dwelling will be built on an area of the garden which contains amenity grassland, introduced shrub, primarily non-native rhododendron and a few scattered trees. The area of the garden which will be impacted by the proposed works is of low ecological value.
- 8.2 The areas of rhododendron *rhododendron ponticum* which will need to be cleared and removed from site as part of the proposed works, will need to be removed legally to avoid further spreading of this invasive species (as listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981).
- 8.3 Evidence of bats in the form of bat droppings was found during the internal inspection of the void in the main dwelling. In addition, the main dwelling had external features e.g. gaps under hanging tiles, gaps under wooden soffit boards which offered PRF's for roosting bats. At least two further dusk emergence surveys are recommended in the active bat season between May and September. Surveys must be spaced at least three weeks apart.
- 8.4 Details on how to control lighting to reduce the impact of foraging bats within the local landscape are included in this report. In order to fulfil requirements under the NPPF, biodiversity enhancements have also been outlined.

8.5

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

9.0 REFERENCES

Cameron, M (2024). Wychwood Environmental Ltd. Preliminary Ecological Appraisal. Pinewood Cottage, Colgate.

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

Department of Communities and Local Government (March 2012) National Planning Policy Framework.

Institute of Environmental Assessment (1995) Guidelines for Baseline Ecological Assessment.

JNCC (2010) *Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: a technique for environmental audit*. JNCC, Peterborough.

MAGIC Site Check Report. Available: www.magic.gov.uk.

Reason, P.F. and Wray, S. (2023). UK Bat Mitigation Guidelines: a guide to impact assessment, mitigation and compensation for developments affecting bats. Version 1.1. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Ampfield.

Mitchell-Jones, A.J. and Mc Leish, A.P. (2004) Bat Workers Manual. JNCC

Appendix 1 – Protected Species Legislation.

Plants

All wild plants are protected against unauthorised removal or uprooting under Section 13 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Plants listed on Schedule 8 of the Act (e.g. triangular club rush and Deptford Pink) are afforded additional protection against picking, uprooting, destruction and sale. Bluebell is protected against sale only.

Amphibians (Common Species)

Common amphibian species (i.e. common frog, common toad, smooth newt and palmate newt) are afforded partial legal protection under UK legislation, i.e. Schedule 5, Section 9 (5) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. This legislation prohibits:

- sale
- transportation
- advertising for sale

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Bats

All bat species are afforded full protection under UK and European legislation, including the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. Together, this legislation makes it illegal to:

- Intentionally or deliberately take, kill or injure a bat
- Damage, destroy or obstruct access to bat roosts
- Deliberately disturb bats

A bat roost is defined in the legislation as “any structure or place which a bat uses for shelter or protection”. Roosts are protected whether or not bats are present at the time. If a development activity is likely to result in disturbance or killing of a bat, damage to its habitat or any of the other activities listed above, then a licence will usually be required from Natural England.

Birds

The bird breeding season generally lasts from early March to September for most species. All birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) (as amended) and the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000. This legislation makes it illegal, both intentionally and recklessly to:

- Kill, injure or take any wild bird;

- Take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is being built or in use;
- Take or destroy the eggs of any wild bird; and
- Possess or control any wild bird or egg unless obtained legally.

Birds listed under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) (as amended) (e.g. barn owl and kingfisher) are afforded additional protection, which includes makes it an offence to disturb a bird while it is nest building, or at a nest containing eggs or young, or disturb the dependent young of such a bird.

Great crested newts

Great crested newts and their habitat are afforded full protection under UK and European legislation, including the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. This makes it is an offence to kill, injure or disturb great crested newts and to destroy any place used for rest or shelter by a newt. The great crested newt is also listed on Annexes II and IV of the EC Habitats Directive and Appendix II of the Bern Convention. If a development activity is likely to result in disturbance or killing of a great crested newt, damage to its habitat etc, then a licence will usually be required from Natural England.

Reptiles

There are six native species of reptiles in the UK, including the slow-worm (*Anguis fragilis*), viviparous lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*), grass snake (*Natrix natrix*) and adder (*Vipera berus*), smooth snake (*Coronella austriaca*) and sand lizard (*Lacerta agilis*), which are afforded varying degrees of protection under UK and European legislation.

Slow-worm, viviparous lizard, adder and grass snake are protected under Schedule 5, Section 9 (1 and 5) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000 against deliberate or reckless killing and injuring and sale.

Otters

Great Otters are fully protected under the Habitats Regulations through their inclusion on Schedule 2. Regulation 41 prohibits:

- Deliberate killing, injuring or capturing of Schedule 2 species
- Damage or destruction of a breeding site or resting place
- Deliberate disturbance of otters as:
 - to impair their ability:
 - to survive, breed, or reproduce, or to rear or nurture young;
 - to hibernate or migrate
 - to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species

Otters are also currently protected under the WCA through their inclusion on Schedule 5. Under this Act, they are additionally protected from

- Intentional or reckless disturbance (at any level)
- Intentional or reckless obstruction of access to any place of shelter or protection

Appendix 2 – Plans, figures and photographs.

Figure 1 – Approximate location and boundary of the site (red outline). Approximate location of land under the same ownership but outside of the site boundary (blue line). Base image taken from Google Earth.



Figure 2 – Approximate location of the site (red line) within the wider landscape. Base image taken from Google Earth.

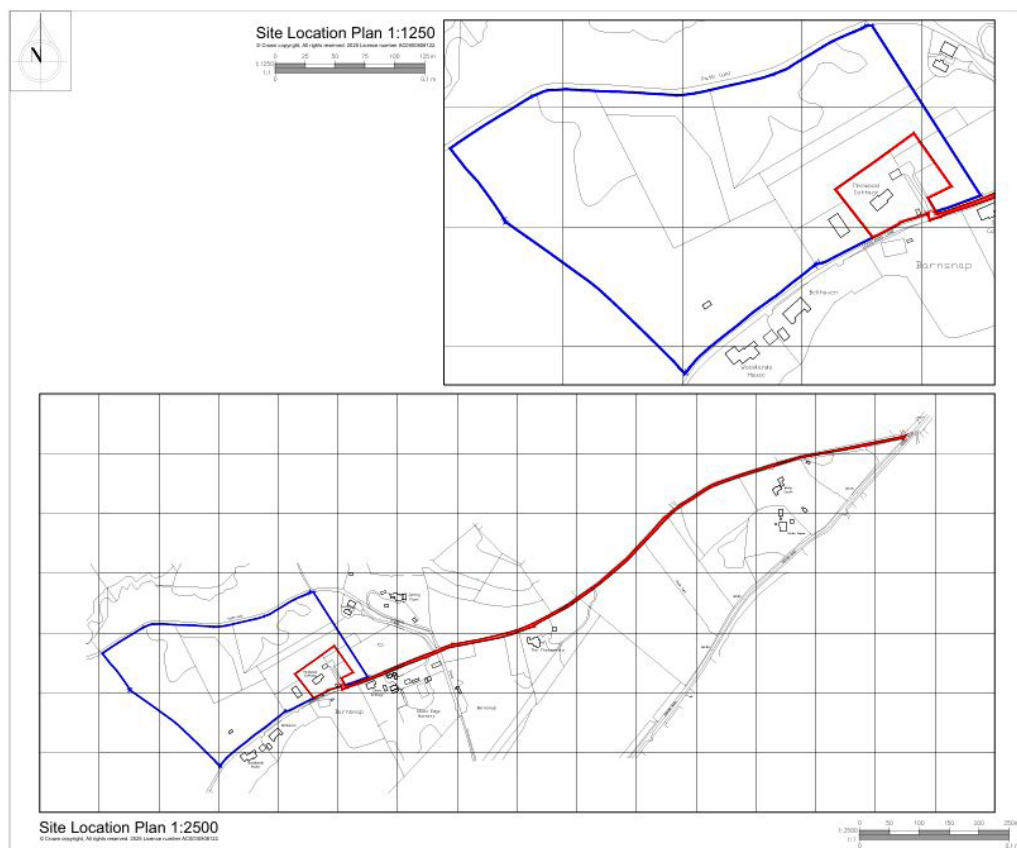


Figure 3. Site location plan. Image produced by Oakwrights Ltd.



Figure 4. Existing site plan. Image produced by Oakwrights Ltd.



Figure 5. Proposed replacement dwelling plan. Image produced by Oakrights Ltd.



Figure 6. Existing elevations. Image produced by Oakwrights Ltd.



Figure 7. Proposed northeast elevation. Image produced by Oakwrights Ltd.



Figure 8. Proposed northwest elevation. Image produced by Oakwrights Ltd.



Figure 9. Proposed southwest elevation. Image produced by Oakwrights Ltd.



Figure 10. Proposed southeast elevation. Image produced by Oakwrights Ltd.



Figure 11 – Approximate location of the site (red square) with statutory designated sites and granted European Protected Species Licences shown within a 2km buffer of the site. Source: <https://magic.defra.gov.uk/>



Figure 12 – Phase 1 habitat map of the site.

Site Photographs



Photograph 1 – The northwest elevation of the existing dwelling (B1) on site proposed to be demolished.



Photograph 2 – The southwest elevation of the existing dwelling on site.



Photograph 3 – Part of the southwest elevation and the southeast elevation of the existing dwelling on site.



Photograph 4 – Part of the northeast elevation and part of the northwest elevation of the existing dwelling on site.



Photograph 5 – A large area of the northwest and southwest elevations were tile hung with concrete hanging tiles.



Photograph 6 – There were gaps under some of the hanging tiles along the edges, offering potential roost features (PRF's) for crevice-dwelling bats.



Photograph 7 – There was a lifted hanging tile on the side of the dormer window on the southeast elevation and gaps at the base of the rotten wooden window surround offering potential roost features (PRF's) for crevice-dwelling bats.



Photograph 8 – The dormer windows on the southeast and southwest elevations were covered with wooden weather boarding. The weatherboarding was well weathered and large gaps were not visible from the ground level assessment.



Photograph 9 – There were gaps under the wooden soffits and the edge of the flat roof on the southwest elevation presenting PRF's for bats.



Photograph 10 – The main void in the dwelling was covered in bat and mouse droppings. There was also a lot of rodent poisoning across the void.



Photograph 11 – The void had very limited access in places. A sign in the void advised it was unsafe to enter and stated 'the floor between the joists was fragile and will not carry your weight. You should not enter the loft unless a board is placed across the joists'.



Photograph 12 – In addition to the mice droppings found, evidence in the form of bat droppings morphologically consistent with those of the brown long-eared species of bat was found scattered across the void.



Photograph 13 – Evidence in the form of bat droppings morphologically consistent with those of the brown long-eared species of bat was found scattered across the void.



Photograph 14 – The wooden garage/sunroom detached building (B2) on site proposed to be demolished.



Photograph 15 – The wooden garage/sunroom detached building (B2) on site proposed to be demolished.



Photograph 16 – The internal view of the wooden garage/sunroom detached building (B2) with no void present.



Photograph 17 – The glass greenhouse (B3) will be demolished as part of the proposed works.



Photograph 18 – The tarmac driveway and associated parking area providing access off Woodlands Lane.



Photograph 19 – The amenity grassland area with fruit trees alongside the existing parking area on site and a group of silver birch *betula pendula* trees behind.



Photograph 20 – An area of amenity grassland surrounding the existing dwelling on site.



Photograph 21 – Pontic rhododendron *rhododendron ponticum* was present across the rear garden where the proposed dwelling will be constructed.



Photograph 22 – Pontic rhododendron *rhododendron ponticum* was also present in garden area alongside the driveway.



Photograph 23 – Two/three small mammal holes were present in the southeastern corner of the site.



Photograph 24 – Two/three small mammal holes were present in the southeastern corner of the site.

	
Photograph 25 – Evidence of deer in the form of prints, droppings and a partially broken fence were noted across the garden area adjacent to the driveway.	

Appendix 3- Lighting guidance - the impact of artificial light on bats

The following basic set of guidelines is summarized from the latest Guidance Note (08/18)²³ provides a concise checklist of points to consider with any lighting scheme:

- *Use professional lighting design engineers to model and predict light spill so that it can be avoided.*
- *Reduce light levels to the minimum necessary to meet legal and safety requirements.*
- *Reduce horizontal and upward/downward light spillage to the minimum achievable. The use of cowling, masks, louvers etc. and limiting the height of lighting columns may be important depending on the design of the lighting units. No bare bulbs. Lighting should only light the target area.*
- *Use non-reflective surfaces within the area to be lit to minimise indirect (reflected) spillage of light. The use of planting or other structures to add screening.*
- *Reduce the duration of lighting. The use of lighting 'curfews' can also be helpful - especially in the vicinity of bats roosts. For example, the emergence of bats, typically within the hour after sunset, may be disrupted (delayed) by raised light levels and this may result in a loss of feeding opportunities.*
- *Consider the type of light to be used and whether a different type or design may reduce potential impacts on bats and other wildlife. Narrow spectrum lighting with minimal UV emission should be used.*
- *Use 'screen planting' to limit light spill into dark areas.*
- *Use narrow spectrum light sources to lower the range of species affected by lighting, as research has shown that spectral composition does impact biodiversity.*
- *Use light sources that emit minimal ultra-violet light*
- *Avoid white and blue wavelengths of the light spectrum to reduce insect attraction and where white light sources are required in order to manage the blue short wave length content they should be of a warm / neutral colour temperature <4,200 kelvin.*

For more details, please refer to:

<https://www.theilp.org.uk/documents/guidance-note-8-bats-and-artificial-lighting/>

http://www.bats.org.uk/pages/bats_and_lighting.html

<http://www.batsandlighting.co.uk/index.html>

²³ <https://www.theilp.org.uk/documents/guidance-note-8-bats-and-artificial-lighting/>

Appendix 4 – Gardening for bats.

Gardening for bats

Aim at having flowers in bloom through the year, including both annuals and herbaceous perennials.

Below are some suggestions, but this is by no means an exhaustive list. See what grows well in YOUR garden, and what seems most attractive to insects. Flowering times are approximate, varying in different areas. Regular dead-heading extends flowering period in many flowers. A=annual, HA=hardy annual, HHA=half-hardy annual, P=perennial, W=wild flower.

Flowers for borders			
St John's Wort	Hypericum	P	March-
marigolds	Calendula	H/A	March – Oct.
aubrelia	a. deltoidea	P	March-June
honesty	Lunaria rediva	HB	March
forget-me-not	Myosotis sp.	A/P	March - May
elephant ears	Begonia	P	April
Wallflowers	Erysimum	B	April - June
Cranesbills	Geranium sp.	P	May – Sept.
Yarrow	Achillea	P	May -
Poppies	Papaver sp.	A	May - July
Dames violet	Hesperis matronalis	P	May - August
Red Valerian	Centranthus ruber	P	May – Sept.
Poached egg plant	Linum catharticum	HA	June – Aug.
Knapweed	Centaura nigra	P	June-Sept.
Phacelia		HA	June – Sept.
Ox-eye daisy	Leucanthemum vulgare	P	June – Aug.
Evening primrose	Oenothera biennis	B	June-Sept.
Candytuft	ibasis umbellata	HA	June – Sept.
Sweet William	Dianthus barbatus	B	June - July
Blanket flowers	Gaillardia	P	June -
Verbena	V. bonariensis	HHA	June – Oct.
Scabious	knautia arvensis	P	July-Aug.
Night-scented stock	Matthiola bicornis	HA	July-Aug.
Pincushion flower	Scabiosa sp.	A/P	July – Sept.
Cherry pie	heleborus	HHA	July – Oct.
Mexican aster	Cosmos sp.	A/P	July – Oct.
Cone flower	Rudbeckia sp.	A/P	August-Nov.
Mallow	lavatera sp.	P	August-Oct
Michaelmas daisy	Aster sp.	P	August-Sept.
Ice plant 'Pink lady'	Sedum spectabile	P	Sept.
Herbs – both leaves and flowers are fragrant			
Fennel	Foeniculum vulgare		July – Sept.
Bergamot	Monarda didyma		June - Sept
Sweet Cicely	Myrrhis odorata		April - June
Hyssop	Hyssopus officinalis		July - Sept
Feverfew	Tanacetum parthenium		June – Sept.
Borage	Borago officinalis		May – Sept.

Rosemary	Rosemary officinalis	March - May
Lemon balm	Meissa officinalis	
Coriander	Copernium sativum	June - August
Lavenders	Lavandula sp.	
Marjoram	Origanum sp.	
Trees, shrubs and climbers important to insects		
Oak	Quercus sp.	large gardens only
Silver birch	Betula pendula	
Common alder	Alnus glutinosa	Suitable for coppicing
Hazel	Corylus avellana	Suitable for coppicing
Elder	Sambucus nigra	Small
Pussy willow	Salix caprea	Suitable for coppicing
Hawthorn	Crataegus monogyna	Suitable for coppicing
Honeysuckle	Lonicera sp.	grow a variety for succession.
Dog rose	Rosa canina	Climber
Bramble	Rubus fruticosus	Climber
Ivy	hedera helix	Climber
Buddleia	Buddleia davidi	shrub
Guelder rose	Viburnum opulus	shrub
Gorse	Ulex sp.	shrub
Plants for pond edges and marshy areas		
Purple loosestrife	Lythrum salicaria	W June – Aug.
Meadow sweet	Filipendula ulmaria	W June – Sept.
Lady's smock	Cardamine pratensis	W April - June
Water mint	mentha aquatica	W July – Sept.
Angelica	Angelica sylvestris	W July – Sept.
Hemp agrimony	Eupatorium cannabinum	W July – Sept.
Marsh marigold	Caltha palustris	W March – May
Creeping Jenny	Lysimachia nummularia	W May - August
Fringed water lily	Nymphaeas petiolata	W June – Sept.
Water forget-me-not	Myosotis scorpioides	W June – Sept.

Allow part of your lawn to grow long in summer and cut in autumn, removing the clippings. Avoid using fertilizers. Compost heaps are good producers of insects too.

Add a seat to watch your garden come to life!

Native plant species recommended

Hedging/shrubs (60cm whips)	
Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
Common Dogwood	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>
Guelder Rose	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>
Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>
Elder	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>
Field Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>
Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>
Spindle	<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>
Trees (regular standard size)	
Apple	<i>Malus spp.</i>
Cherry	<i>Prunus spp.</i>
Field Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>
Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>
Rowan	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>
Wild Service	<i>Sorbus torminalis</i>
English Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>
Shrubs/Herbaceous plants (formal beds)	
Use species attractive to pollinators e.g bees, butterflies, moths. See this selection of RHS plants for pollinators: http://www.rhs.org.uk/Gardening/Sustainable-gardening/Plants-for-pollinators (see Appendix 4)	
Note – all specimens should be of British native stock from reputable suppliers.	