HERTFORDSHIRE BIOLOGICAL RECORDS CENTRE

Environment, County Hall, Hertford, Herts, SG13 8DN

Mr D. Manhertz Planning Officer Pl.ask for :- G Goodall Welwyn Hatfield Council Our Ref Welwyn Garden City-Your Ref : - S6/2012/0193/FP $\{M_{ij}, N_{ij}, M_{ij}, M_{ij}\}$ Hertford Tel :- 01992 556155 PROPERTY IN : - 20/02/2012 Date 2 1 FEB 2012 REFAIR

Dear Mr Manhertz

Planning Application: S6/2012/0193/FP; 10 Wilkins Green Lane, Hatfield. Alterations to first floor front and side elevation, including HIP to gable front roof; raise eaves to side elevation and erection of open porch to front.

1. HBRC database.

HBRC do not have any specific biological data for the above property.

2. Bats the Law and Planning Process.

Bats are protected under both European and national legislation and are a material consideration in the determination of a planning application, that if implemented would be likely to result in harm to the species.

We take the view that it is unlikely that bats would choose to roost in the existing dwelling. Therefore, we consider it would be unreasonable for the LPA to require a bat assessment survey to be submitted in support of this application.

3. Recommendations.

We recommend that a precautionary approach is taken to the planned works.

Development should proceed with caution. In the event of bats being found, work must stop immediately and ecological advice taken on how to proceed lawfully.

Yours sincerely,

Graham Goodall CEnv. MIEEM Senior Ecologist