

HERTFORDSHIRE BIOLOGICAL RECORDS CENTRE

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

Mr Mark Peacock
Planning Officer
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council
The Campus
Welwyn Garden City
AL8 6A

Ask for: B. Tranter
Our Ref:
Your Ref: S6/2011/2817/FP
Tel: 01992 556155
Date: 1/06/2012

Dear Mr Peacock,

Planning Ref: S6/2011/2817/FP. Erection of two storey side extension, alterations to windows and doors on rear elevation and insertion of velux windows. 1 The Cottages, Shepherds Way, Hatfield.

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; however the surrounding habitat is suitable for supporting bats. 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, particularly those associated with the roof. In the event of bats being found, work must stop immediately and ecological advice taken on how to proceed lawfully.

We trust these comments are of assistance in determining this application.

Yours sincerely,

Barry Tranter PhD MIEEM
Ecological Consultant for HBRC