

HERTFORDSHIRE ECOLOGY

Providing ecological advice to Hertfordshire's Local Authorities and communities

Environmental Resource Planning, Environment & Infrastructure
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Tel: 01992 555220

Ms Kirsty Shirley
Development Management Officer
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

Ask for: Anita Parry
Tel: 01992 556149

Date: 05/10/2020

Dear Kirsty,

Application Reference: 6/2020/2181/HOUSE

Proposed development at: 9 Hook Lane Northaw Potters Bar EN6 4DA

Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension

Thank you for consulting Hertfordshire Ecology on the above. I apologise for the delay with this reply.

I am not aware of any habitat or species data for the application site itself, which is a semi-detached two-story dwelling with integral garage and large garden; it backs onto an arable field. The property is an area of low-density housing with plenty of mature trees, woodland, arable and drains in close proximity. There are a number of Local Wildlife Sites nearby and, in fact, Hook Lane is a species-Local Wildlife Site designated for its bat interest.

The house appears to be in good, well-sealed condition and the proposed extension will not affect the existing roof. Given the nature of the site and lack of apparent characteristics of the building, on this occasion I do not consider there is sufficient likelihood of bats being present and affected for the LPA to require a formal survey prior to determination. However, in the event that bats are found, I advise a precautionary approach to the works is taken and recommend the following **Informative** is added to any permission granted.

“If bats, or evidence for them, are discovered during the course of works, work must stop immediately and advice sought on how to proceed lawfully from an appropriately qualified and experienced Ecologist or Natural England to avoid an offence being committed.”

I do not consider there to be any other ecological issues with this proposal.

I trust these comments are of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Anita Parry
Ecology Advisor
Hertfordshire Ecology