

HERTFORDSHIRE ECOLOGY

Providing ecological advice to Hertfordshire's Local Authorities and communities

Environmental Resource Planning
Hertfordshire County Council, County Hall, Hertford, SG13 8DN
ecology@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Tom Gabriel
Planning Department,
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council,
The Campus, Welwyn Garden City,
Herts AL8 6AE

Ask for: Simon Richards
Tel: 01992 588483
Date: 05/10/2020

Dear Tom

Application: Erection of two storey side extension with 2 x dormers to the front and 2 x to rear. Works to also include new front boundary entrance gates and wall

Address: 99 The Ridgeway Cuffley Potters Bar EN6 4BG

Reference 6/2020/1972/HOUSE

Thank you for consulting Hertfordshire Ecology on the above, for which I have the following comments:

Hertfordshire Environmental Records Centre does not have any existing habitat or species data for this property. The building is adjacent to Great Northaw Woods SSSI, however, I have no reason to consider the proposal will impact on this designated site. The existing roof already has had a loft conversion with two dormer windows, and the garage to be demolished appears well sealed and well maintained. Given the lack of associated records and 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 unlikely event that bats are found, given the proposal will involve demolition and roof works, 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 demolition or roof 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

Simon Richards
Ecology Advisor, Hertfordshire Ecology