

HERTFORDSHIRE ECOLOGY

Providing ecological advice to Hertfordshire's Local Authorities and communities

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Ms Louise Sahlke
Planning Department,
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council,
The Campus, Welwyn Garden City,
Herts AL8 6AE.

Ask for: Simon Richards
Tel: 01992 555220
Date: 31/10/2018

Dear Louise

Application Reference: 6/2018/2387/MAJ

Proposed development at: 37 Broadwater Road Welwyn Garden City AL7 3AX
6.2018.2387.MAJ

Proposal: Construction of new build of 22 x 2 Bedroom and 2 x 3 Bedroom residential apartments with balconies and a roof garden. Layout of 26 car parking spaces, cycle parking, refuse store, internal access routes, landscaping and supporting infrastructure

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

I note we previously commented on planning application 6/2016/2497/MAJ at this site and the planning application which followed it 6/2018/0825/MAJ which was refused. These proposals are similar and we have similar ecological, comments to make now:

The Hertfordshire Environmental Records Centre has no habitat or species data for the application site, which is a modern office building with negligible ecological value. There may be potential for common breeding birds to use the roof structure for nesting and a precautionary approach should be taken to avoid harming or disturbing birds, their eggs or any active nests. I recommend the following **Informative** is added to any permission granted;

“Any works to the external roof structure should be avoided during the nesting bird season (March to August inclusive [Natural England]) to protect breeding birds, their nests, eggs and young. If this is not practicable, a search of the area should be made no more than 3 days in advance of works and if active nests are found, the area should be cordoned off (buffer 4m) and/or works should stop until the birds have left the nest.”

I trust these comments are of assistance,

Yours sincerely

Simon Richards
Ecology Advisor, Hertfordshire Ecology

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HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL,
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