



Building B, Lords Wood Barns, Petworth, GU29 9BS

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5th December 2023

Ref: Ecological Impact Assessment – Land to the rear of Sturt Avenue, Haslemere

To whom it may concern,

The Ecology Co-op undertook a suite of surveys at this site of this site across 2020 and 2021 to determine what impact the development of this site to support 9 new homes. The Ecological Impact Assessment drew on surveys that included:

1. Reptile presence/likely absence
2. Dormouse presence/likely absence
3. Bat activity survey and ground level tree assessment
4. A breeding bird survey
5. An assessment for badgers including sett monitoring
6. A habitat suitability assessment for great crested newts
7. An invertebrate survey comprising a moth trapping survey

These surveys identified the following:

- Likely absence of dormice
- The presence of slow worms and grass snakes
- The presence of badgers and two likely outlier setts
- The presence of trees with suitable features for roosting bats, but the absence of evidence of use by bats
- The use of the site by a low number of foraging bats, but with the notable identification of a barbastelle bat
- A population of generally common and widespread breeding birds
- The likely absence of great crested newts

These surveys are approaching an age where updated assessments might be required, particularly where there is evidence of any changes in habitat management or indications of significant habitat change. For example, the development of scrub habitat, which can mature quite quickly, may increase the suitability of a site for dormice.

I undertook a site visit on the 5th of December 2023 to determine if there was any evidence of new habitat management or if there were any significant habitat changes evident, further to a proposal to make a new application for the development of the site. I found that the site remains in the same

condition as it was during surveys across 2020 and 2021. There was no evidence of recent disturbance or changes to site management and this indicates that it is highly unlikely that there will have been any significant changes in use of the site by protected or notable species at the site and its overall habitat and biodiversity value will remain largely the same. I include recent photographs of the site as an appendix to this letter for reference.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards



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Appendix 1. Photographs from the main body of the site illustrating stable habitat conditions.



