

RE: 25/0765



Harris, Matthew (Ecology Officer)

To Ostler, Marnie (Planning Officer)

Cc Baron, Richard (Arboricultural Officer)

Retention Policy 7 Year Delete (7 years)

Expires 02/11/2032



10:49

Hello Marnie,

Some of the work proposed in this application relate to trimming of smaller branches to allow clearance from buildings, and other minor works to trees that I am not concerned about. However, other trees are proposed to be felled or pollarded, and we should understand the implications that this may have for protected species before granting consent.

For example, many of the trees are likely to support nesting birds, so we should secure an undertaking from the Applicant that works will take place outside the main bird nesting season, roughly March to August inclusive.

Secondly, some of the semi/mature trees, and especially tree groups within woodland, may support roosting bats. Prior to felling or pollarding mature trees we should understand the implications for any bats that may be roosting in them. Looking at the schedule of trees and the works proposed to them, T4, T34, G13 and G16 raise particular concern in this respect.

Therefore the Applicant should set out how they plan to address the statutory protection of these species, both to allow us to discharge our statutory duties when determining the application, and also to protect themselves against the risk of prosecution for disturbing a bat roost or bird's nest during the works.

It may be the case that a preliminary assessment is undertaken prior to works, or that a watching brief is maintained while the work is taking place. Either way, we need to agree an approach with the Applicant which is compliant with our Environment (Wales) Act Section 6 duty and our Regulation 9 duty under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations.

Matt