
From: Harris, Matthew (Ecology Officer)
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2026 12:37
To: Burrows, Lydia (Planning Officer) <Lydia.Burrows@newport.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Planning Consultation Request for case ref: 26/0300

Hello Lydia,

The descriptions of many of the trees refer to features such as major deadwood, cracks and cavities in mature trees, which could be locations where bats may roost. All bats and their roosts are protected from harm because they are European protected species, and my concern is that bat roosts may be destroyed if they have exploited these defects in these trees.

The Applicant should set out how they intend to identify any potential roost features, to survey these features for potential bat presence, and to mitigate the impacts upon bats if any roosts are found. Normally we would expect an assessment of potential roost features by an Ecological Consultant, so that we can understand the impact upon protected species of granting consent to this proposal.

In addition, the Applicant should be reminded that it is likely these trees support nesting birds, and that nesting birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981: Part 1, 1(1)(b), whereby it is an offence to intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while that nest is in use or being built.

Dormice may be present in this woodland, and this is also a European protected species. Their breeding season is roughly June to August inclusive, so any clearance of woodland habitat should be timed to avoid this period, and also the bird nesting season as outlined above.

Matt