

25/0500

Brynglas House, Brynglas Road, Newport, NP20 5QU.

Ecology Officer Consultation Response

This application is supported by a Bat Survey report dated June 2025, and I agree with the methodology and conclusions set out in that report.

The building to be demolished was described as having 'moderate' bat roost potential and two emergence surveys were conducted. No bats or signs of bats were detected during the internal inspections nor the emergence surveys, though there was some bat activity locally.

The Bat Survey Report makes some recommendations for precautionary mitigation measures and for biodiversity enhancements, and we should use a planning condition to secure their implementation.

APPENDIX B – ARBORICULTURALIST RECOMMENDATIONS in the Demolition Pre-Contract Information document advises that a mature Ash tree adjacent to the building '*...may be removed...*' and that this would need to take place prior to demolition. I do not see that there is any detailed description of this tree in the application documents, so I have no way of knowing whether this tree is capable of supporting roosting bats or nesting birds.

If this tree does need to be removed, then it should be subject to a pre-felling check by the Applicant's Ecological Consultant, and any recommendations they provide as a result of that check should be enacted accordingly.

The applicant should be reminded via an advisory note to avoid disturbance to nesting birds which 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.

Matthew Harris

Ecology Officer

Newport City Council