

Biodiversity Statement

Project: Single-storey extension

Site Address: 2 Leecroft, Aldwick Fields, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, PO21 3SY

Applicant: Sam Taylor

Existing Site Assessment

The proposed development is for a small, single-storey extension to the rear of the property. The exact footprint of the extension will sit entirely on an area currently occupied by a permanent stone paving patio.

- **Habitat Type:** Hardstanding (surfaced patio).
- **Ecological Value:** Negligible. The existing patio lacks vegetation, soil access, or any natural habitat features.
- **Protected Species:** There are no signs of, or optimal habitats for, protected species (such as bats, badgers, or great crested newts) within the development footprint. No trees, hedgerows, or mature shrubs will be removed or impacted by the construction.

Potential Impacts

The development will replace an already sealed, impermeable surface with a building footprint. There will be:

- **Zero loss** of priority habitats or green space.
- **No disruption** to local wildlife corridors or nesting birds.

Mitigation and Enhancement Measures (Biodiversity Net Gain)

To comply with local planning policies and enhance the site's contribution to local biodiversity, the following proportionate measures will be integrated into the project:

- **Bird Box:** One Surface-mounted bird box (suitable for local species like swifts or sparrows) or an insect house/bee box will be installed on the external wall of the new extension, positioned away from direct artificial light (see below).
- **Soft Landscaping:** Any patio area removed but not built upon will be reinstated as a small permeable rain garden or planted with native, pollinator-friendly species (e.g., lavender, rosemary, or wild thyme) to improve the local insect habitat.
- **Pollution Prevention:** Standard best-practice measures will be taken during construction to prevent dust or runoff from entering the wider garden area.

Conclusion

The proposed extension will have no adverse impact on local biodiversity or protected habitats. Through the inclusion of targeted enhancement measures (such as wildlife nesting boxes), the project will deliver a net positive benefit to the immediate local environment.

