

Biodiversity Enhancement Statement

Site: 50 Palmer Road, Angmering, Littlehampton, BN16 4LJ

Proposal: Rear extension

1. Introduction

This Biodiversity Enhancement Statement has been prepared to accompany the planning drawings for a proposed rear extension at 50 Palmer Road, Angmering. The submitted drawing shows the removal of the existing rear conservatory and the construction of a replacement rear extension within the residential curtilage of the property. The drawing also identifies the site area as approximately **311.4m²** and shows the proposed extension, rooflight, rear glazing, drainage to a soakaway, and associated works within the existing domestic plot.

2. Existing Site and Ecological Context

The application site is an existing residential property with a domestic rear garden. The proposed works are limited to the rear of the dwelling and largely relate to the replacement of the existing conservatory with a new rear extension. No priority habitats, ponds, watercourses, mature trees, woodland, or hedgerows are shown within the proposed extension footprint on the submitted drawing.

The works are therefore considered unlikely to result in significant adverse biodiversity impacts, provided standard precautionary measures are followed during construction.

3. Avoidance and Mitigation Measures

The development will follow the mitigation hierarchy by avoiding and minimising harm to existing biodiversity wherever practicable. The following measures will be adopted:

1. Existing boundary vegetation, garden planting and any retained soft landscaping will be protected during construction.
2. Materials and machinery will be stored away from retained planting and boundary features.
3. Any vegetation clearance will be avoided during the main bird nesting season, generally March to August inclusive, unless first checked by a suitably competent person.
4. Any excavations left open overnight will include a means of escape for mammals, such as a sloping board.
5. External lighting will be kept to the minimum necessary and directed downward, away from boundary vegetation, bird boxes and bat features.
6. Construction waste will be controlled and removed from site to avoid pollution or harm to wildlife.

4. Proposed Biodiversity Enhancements

Although the proposal is understood to be exempt from mandatory BNG, the development will provide proportionate on-site biodiversity enhancements suitable for a domestic plot. The following measures are proposed:

Enhancement	Proposed Measure	Biodiversity Benefit
Bird nesting provision	Install one bird nesting box on the existing dwelling or new extension, preferably on a north or east-facing elevation, away from direct strong sunlight and heavy disturbance.	Provides nesting opportunity for common garden birds.
Bat roosting provision	Install one bat box on the existing building or another suitable elevated location, at least 3m above ground where practicable, away from direct lighting.	Provides roosting opportunity for bats.
Pollinator planting	Create or enhance a small rear garden planting area using nectar-rich and pollen-rich species such as lavender, rosemary, foxglove, primrose, oxeye daisy, verbena, allium, ivy and native wildflower mix.	Supports bees, butterflies and other pollinating insects.
Hedgehog permeability	Provide a small hedgehog access gap , approximately 130mm x 130mm, at the base of a suitable garden boundary fence where feasible and with neighbour agreement where required.	Allows hedgehogs and other small mammals to move between gardens.
Habitat feature	Provide a small log pile, leaf pile, or insect habitat area in a quiet corner of the rear garden.	Creates shelter for invertebrates, amphibians and small mammals.
Water management	Where practicable, add a water butt to collect rainwater from the new roof drainage.	Reduces runoff and provides sustainable garden watering.

5. Implementation and Management

The biodiversity enhancements will be installed either during construction or within the first suitable planting season following completion of the extension. The bird and bat boxes will be retained and maintained by the homeowner. Planting will be managed without routine use of pesticides, and failed plants will be replaced where necessary to ensure establishment.

6. Conclusion

The proposed rear extension is a small-scale householder development within an existing domestic residential plot. It is understood to be exempt from mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain requirements, but the proposal will nevertheless deliver reasonable and proportionate biodiversity enhancements through bird and bat boxes, pollinator-friendly planting, hedgehog access, and small garden habitat features.

These measures will help ensure that the completed development contributes positively to local biodiversity in accordance with the objectives of national and local planning policy.