

Ecology response

Arun District Council, Civic Centre, Maltravers Rd
Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5LF
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From: Jonathan Best <Jonathan.Best@arun.gov.uk>
Sent: 29 January 2025 10:58
To: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Amber Willard <Amber.Willard@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: F/2/25/PL

I have reviewed this application with regards to ecology and Biodiversity Net Gain.

The site is within the Arun Valley SPA Impact Risk Zone 2. An appropriate assessment is required.

This application is exempt from mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain under the de minimis definition.

A Protected Species and Site Survey Report has been provided. This focuses on Bewick Swans. The report lacks details of the survey methodology and timings and the qualifications of the

author. However, this development is very unlikely to impact Bewick Swans directly or indirectly due to the urban nature of the site and negligible recreational disturbance from the proposals. Further surveys are not required.

A Biodiversity Enhancement Statement proposes the following actions.

- **Retention of key habitats:** Existing habitats such as trees, shrubs, flowers, grass and the pond will be preserved and remain unchanged by the proposal.
- **Enhancement of biodiversity:** Two new bird boxes and an insect hotel will be incorporated into the design and will be built and set up in the courtyard.
- **Wildlife-friendly design:** More hedgerow planting around the garden area will be incorporated into the design to improve habitat connectivity.

Recommendation: No objection subject to conditions.

Recommended condition.

ECOBNG2 – to include the actions in the biodiversity enhancement statement.

Regards,

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