



18th August 2014

Mr. John Smithers
Store Property Investments Limited
Farr House
4 New Park Road
Chichester
West Sussex, PO19 7XA

Dear John,

Re: Land off Norway Lane, Watersmead Business Park, Littlehampton BN17 6LS

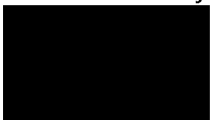
As discussed during our recent conversation, whilst it is considered that an updated survey for bats is required to inform a planning application for the above site, further survey work for great crested newt and reptiles should not be necessary for the following reasons:

- Great crested newts were not recorded during the 2009 survey of the lake and neither were any other species of amphibian, which is likely to be due to the presence of large fish (i.e. predators) and relative isolation of the lake from other water bodies in the surrounding area. It is therefore considered unlikely that the species would have colonised the lake since 2009 (if a local population exists) and should therefore not be impacted on by the proposed works.
- Whilst very low numbers of common lizard and slow worm (maximum survey visit count of four and five individuals respectively) were recorded during the 2009 survey, this was in association with the wider site rather than the new application site, which is restricted to the existing residential curtilage. As has been assessed during the recent walkover survey conducted in August 2014, the ecological characteristics of the site have not altered since 2009 and it is reasonable to expect that the species assemblage and relative population sizes will not have changed significantly. Therefore, another survey is unlikely to provide any new information and potential impacts to reptiles can be adequately managed via precautionary mitigation measures.

As described above, mitigation measures for reptiles will need to be implemented for the site, as described in Section 5.1.1 of the original survey report reference 09_262_Report_MF_RW. To ensure that this takes place, it is recommended that the Arun District Council Planning Officer conditions a detailed mitigation strategy as part of planning permission, to take into account bats (see report reference 09_262_ReportX02_MF_RW), breeding birds and reptiles.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Marcus Fry BSc MSc MCIEEM¹
Director

¹ Member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (Full)