

Biodiversity Enhancement Statement  
Application Reference: R/160/25/PL  
Site Address: 154-160 The Street, Rustington, BN16 3ZZ  
Date: 11 September 2025

## **1. Introduction**

This statement has been prepared in support of the planning application for the erection of a single storey rear extension at 154-160 The Street, Rustington, BN16 3ZZ.

It addresses the requirements of Policy ENV DM5 (Development and Biodiversity) of the Arun Local Plan, which seeks to ensure that development protects existing biodiversity and delivers opportunities for ecological enhancement wherever possible.

## **2. Assessment of Existing Site Ecology**

The application site is a commercial property within a predominantly built-up area. The building itself and surrounding hardstanding provide limited ecological value. A review of the site confirms that:

- There are no suitable habitats on or adjacent to the building for protected species such as bats, nesting birds, reptiles, or other notable fauna.
- There are no watercourses, hedgerows, or significant vegetation within the site boundary.
- As a result, no ecological surveys are required to support the application.

## **3. Proposed Ecological Enhancements**

In accordance with Policy ENV DM5, the proposed works will include the following biodiversity enhancement measures to ensure a net ecological gain:

### a) House Sparrow Terrace Boxes

- Installation of two integrated house sparrow terrace boxes on the rear-facing elevation of the building.
- Boxes to be mounted at a minimum height of 3 metres above ground level to avoid disturbance and provide suitable nesting opportunities.

### b) Woodstone Bat Roost Boxes

- Installation of one wall-mounted Woodstone bat roost box on the same elevation, also at least 3 metres above ground level.
- Placement will ensure exposure to optimal solar gain, increasing roosting suitability for local bat species.

### c) Ongoing Maintenance

- The property owner will be responsible for maintaining these enhancements to ensure their long-term ecological benefit.

## **4. Compliance with Policy ENV DM5**

Policy ENV DM5 of the Arun Local Plan requires that developments:

“...avoid harm to biodiversity, retain and enhance existing habitats where possible, and provide appropriate on-site biodiversity enhancements.”

This application fully complies with ENV DM5 by:

- Avoiding any impact on existing habitats or protected species.
- Providing new nesting and roosting opportunities to enhance local biodiversity.
- Delivering a positive ecological contribution despite the limited potential of the existing built up site.

## **5. Conclusion**

Although the site currently offers low ecological value, the proposed enhancements will deliver tangible biodiversity benefits by creating new nesting and roosting habitats for priority species, in line with Policy ENV DM5 and local validation requirements.