

Biodiversity Enhancement Statement

55–57 Sea Lane, Rustington, West Sussex BN16 2RQ

Introduction

This Biodiversity Enhancement Statement has been prepared in support of a planning application for the installation of a commercial kitchen extraction system and associated minor external alterations at 55–57 Sea Lane, Rustington.

The statement has been prepared in accordance with Arun Local Plan Policy ENV DM5 and demonstrates how the proposal seeks to protect the existing natural environment whilst delivering proportionate biodiversity enhancements.

Existing Site

The application site comprises an existing commercial premises located within the built-up area of Rustington. The proposed works are limited to the installation of extraction equipment, minor alterations to existing openings and the erection of a covered walkway within an existing hard-surfaced rear service area.

The proposal does not involve the removal of trees, hedgerows, grassland or other habitats of ecological value. No areas of landscaping or vegetation will be affected by the development.

Protection of Existing Biodiversity

The proposed development has been designed to utilise existing developed areas of the site and will not result in the loss of habitat or ecological features.

All works will be confined to existing buildings and hard standing areas. As such, the proposal is not expected to adversely affect existing biodiversity interests either within the site or the surrounding area.

Biodiversity Enhancement Measures

Whilst the scope of the development is limited, the applicant is committed to providing a proportionate biodiversity enhancement in accordance with Local Plan Policy ENV DM5.

It is proposed that a bird nesting box or bat roosting box will be installed on the existing rear outbuilding within the site following completion of the works. This enhancement will provide additional opportunities for nesting and roosting species within the local area and will contribute positively to biodiversity.

The location and type of box will be selected to ensure it is appropriately positioned and does not conflict with the operation or maintenance of the extraction equipment.

Conclusion

The proposed development is located entirely within an existing developed commercial site and does not result in the loss of habitat, trees, vegetation or ecological features.

The proposal has therefore been designed to protect the existing natural environment whilst providing a proportionate biodiversity enhancement through the installation of a bird or bat box. The development is considered to comply with the objectives of Arun Local Plan Policy ENV DM5.