

Prior notification 69880 Fairfield Hospital

Thank you for consulting the GMEU

Summary

A single bat was recorded roosting in one of the buildings.

Bats

A valid bat report has been provided. Both buildings were assessed as moderate risk and dusk survey carried out during the peak activity season. One common pipistrelle was identified as roosting in building 1 as identified in the bat report. I have no reason to doubt the findings of the report and I am satisfied given the size of roost and species present that adequate mitigation can be provided on the site to safeguard the conservation status of the local bat population. A license will however be required from Natural England. I therefore recommend a condition along the following lines is applied to the prior notification.

The demolition of building 1 is likely to cause harm to common pipistrelle bats as identified in the Bat Survey Report by Urban Green ref. UG1764 and shall not in any circumstances commence unless the local planning authority has been provided with either:

- a) a license issued by Natural England pursuant to Regulation 55, of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 authorising the specified activity/development go ahead: or*
- b) a statement in writing form the relevant licensing body or LPA to the effect that it does not consider that the specified development will require a license*

Nesting Birds

I recommend the following note is applied to the prior notification.

The applicant is reminded that, under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended it is an offence to remove, damage, or destroy the nest of a wild bird, while the nest is in use or being built. Prior approval does not provide a defence against prosecution under this act. If a birds nest is suspected work should cease immediately and a suitably experienced ecologist employed to assess how best to safeguard the nest(s).

David Dutton

Ecologist

Planning

Planning and Transportation

Place