

David

The reason I have not undertaken specific survey effort for bats in my report is that there is no potential bat roosting habitat within the planning application boundary. Similarly, there is no woodland within this boundary and hence I have not surveyed for red squirrels as there is no habitat for squirrels.

The sycamore trees and barn referred to in the Hesketh Ecology report are outside the current planning application boundary. These areas were however within the application boundary covered by the earlier report, but the boundary has since been revised to exclude these areas.

There is no risk of harm to either red squirrels or bats from the current proposals, as there is no red squirrel habitat present within the current planning application boundary and no bat roosting habitat within this area. It should be noted that Hesketh Ecology found no evidence of red squirrels in the woodland that was surveyed.

The woodland edges which surround the planning application area have potential as foraging areas for bats and these will remain intact, both during and after development. The area is enclosed by lit areas and it is unlikely that any bat species which avoid streetlighting will be present in the vicinity, so there is no risk of displacement of foraging bats from the area. Once the development has been completed the gardens will also provide bat foraging habitat.

Rigby

Rigby Jerram Ecological Consultants
4 Bankfield
Kendal
Cumbria
LA9 5DR