



ECOLOGICAL ADVICE SERVICE

TO: Amanda Grout
FROM: Helen Forster
DATE: 23 February 2023
SUBJECT: Westcourt County Primary School, Gravesend 20230041

The following is provided by Kent County Council's Ecological Advice Service (EAS) for Local Planning Authorities. It is independent, professional advice and is not a comment/position on the application from the County Council. It is intended to advise the relevant planning officer(s) on the potential ecological impacts of the planning application; and whether sufficient and appropriate ecological information has been provided to assist in its determination.

Any additional information, queries or comments on this advice that the applicant or other interested parties may have must be directed in every instance to the Planning Officer, who will seek input from the EAS where appropriate and necessary.

No ecological information has been submitted with this planning application. From reviewing the satellite and google street view images it appears that most of the works are to be carried out on hard standing or impacting buildings which have limited potential to be used by roosting bats.

However it is unclear from the submitted information if any trees are to be cleared to facilitate the development. The tree protection plan suggests that T1 and T2 will be removed as part of the development however the plan also confirms the root protection area of those trees.

If the trees are to be removed then the root protection area of those trees would not have to be taken in to account when construction works are being carried out. We advise that clarification is provided on whether any trees are to be cleared and if that is the case we recommend that current pictures of the trees are provided to enable us to consider if it is likely that they would be used by roosting bats.

We recommend that the pictures are submitted prior to determination to enable us to advise on whether an ecology survey is required prior to determination of the planning application.

If you have any queries regarding our comments, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Helen Forster MCIEEM
Biodiversity Officer

This response was submitted following consideration of the following documents:
Tree Protection Plan; Sylvanarb; February 2023

Gravesham Borough Council