

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: Rebecca Owens
From: Matt Davies (Ecologist)
Ext: 5278

Memo number: 1
Date of previous memo: -
Date: 17/02/2025

SUBJECT: P/25/0035 | Erection of single storey extensions, decking and timber screen | The Rose Retreat Spa Cyfarthfa Park Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8RE

SITE DESCRIPTION

Detached structure close to valuable habitat (garden habitats, scrub, woodland, grassland, parkland, lake habitat etc).

PROPOSED WORKS AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS

See table below.

Proposed works	Works likely to impact protected species (if present)
Erection of single storey extensions, decking and timber screen	Low likelihood

DESIGNATED SITES WITHIN 500M OF THE APPLICATION SITE

- ✓ Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC): x2 (closest Cyfarthfa Park, c.134m from site)
- ✓ Restored Ancient Woodland Site (RAWS): x1
- ✓ Within a Buglife B-Lines Area

PRIORITY AND PROTECTED SPECIES WITHIN 500M OF THE APPLICATION SITE

- ✓ Birds (including Schedule 1¹ and Section 7² species);
- ✓ Fish (including Section 7² species);
- ✓ Invertebrates (including Section 7² species)
- ✓ Mammals
 - ✓ Bats (European protected species³; some Section 7² species) - closest roost record for unidentified bat species, c.196m from site);
 - ✓ Otter (European protected species³; Section 7² species);
 - ✓ Hedgehog (Section 7² species);
- ✓ Amphibians
 - ✓ Great crested newt (European protected species³; Section 7 species) - closest record c.717m from site);
 - ✓ Common toad (Section 7² species);
- ✓ Vascular plants

¹ Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)
² Environment (Wales) Act 2016
³ Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)

1. Rose Retreat. Green Infrastructure and Drainage Statement. Project number: 2434. Document number: 910. Date: 31/01/2025 prepared by MWD Architects.

Before further comments can be made, more detail is needed. For example:

- Full details of habitat that will be removed because of the proposed development.
- What habitat will be retained onsite?
- Details of the 'new planting around the building' – where? What species?
- Details of the 'sedum roof', e.g., what manufacturer will be used, what sedum species will be included, will it just be sedum species or will others be involved?
- NB only native species of local (if not Welsh) provenance will be acceptable for the new habitats.
- More details of the long-term management of the above habitats are required.
- Details of the bird boxes. NB these must be constructed from woodstone or woodcrete for reasons of longevity. Model proposed must be supplied (NB the words 'or equivalent' can be used to combat any issues in relation to supply/availability).
- Any newly proposed external and/or internal lighting will require a lighting plan demonstrating compliance to the following guidelines:

<https://theilp.org.uk/publication/guidance-note-8-bats-and-artificial-lighting/>

For example, luminaires must have a colour temperature of 2700K or lower, security lighting set on motion sensors, recessing of internal, no bollard lighting etc etc. Please refer to the guidelines for full details.

Boundaries and wildlife boxes must not be illuminated.

There must be gaps (13cm x 13cm) left in boundaries for hedgehogs.

- A Net Benefit for Biodiversity must be demonstrated?
- All measures must be clearly marked on architects' plans (including, for example planting around buildings, bird boxes, gaps for hedgehogs, lighting etc).