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Comment

Document Element: Policy NB2: Biodiversity

Respondent: Mr John Davison

Date received: 27/05/2024 via Web

Summary:

I support the reference to 'bird boxes' but it should be replaced by or supplemented by a requirement of one swift brick per dwelling. For commercial developments one swift brick per 5 car park spaces.

Full text:

I support reference to bird boxes but I feel the emphasis should be on swift bricks. Nest bricks are integral to a building so do not rely on external features or external fixing. The direction a nest brick faces (orientation) is not so critical as it is for a nest box (facing the sun can get too hot). Swift bricks are a Universal nest brick suited to a number of bird types. Please specify a requirement of one swift brick per dwelling in accordance with best practice guidance such as BS 42021, this to include communal housing such as care homes.
For non residential development, one swift brick per 5 car park spaces.

Installing integral Swift nest bricks would contribute to the objectives of national legislation and planning policy set out below and demonstrate the commitment of your authority to protect and enhance biodiversity:

1) Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006, states: "Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity."

2) This is supported in Paragraphs 185 and 186 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) , which state respectively:

- 185 "To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should:... promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity."
- 186. "When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should apply the following principles:.... development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to improve biodiversity in and around developments should be integrated as part of their design, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity or enhance public access to nature where this is appropriate."

Change suggested by respondent:

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Legally compliant: Not specified

Sound: Not specified

Comply with duty: Not specified

Attachments: