

PLANNING REF : 252498
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 97 Falconhurst Road
: Birmingham
: B29 6SB
SUBMITTED BY : Mr John Davison
DATE SUBMITTED : 26/01/2026

COMMENTS:

Should your authority approve this application, I would like there to be a condition placed on it that integral swift boxes be installed. Acknowledging that the Reading / Wokingham area needs housing, we also have to address the biodiversity crisis. It is too easy to create the bland with token lolipop trees. It is against this possible outcome that the housing developers set up 'Homes for Nature', the principles of which I support. Swifts are entirely reliant on buildings to nest. New buildings lack suitable nest cavities, hence the importance of providing integral nest sites during their construction. The RSPB and the British Trust of Ornithology believe loss of nest sites is a key driver behind the dramatic decline of swifts.

Swift bricks should be positioned approximately 0.5-1m apart, close to the eaves or barge boards of gable ends, away from doors and windows. They must be installed with at least 5m clearance above ground and with a similar clear flight path in front. Ensure trees will not impede flight lines, including any new landscaping that may do so when mature. Orientation is not critical as internal nest bricks are better protected against extremes of temperature than an external box.