

From: Laura Downs <Laura.Downs@naturespaceuk.com>
Sent: 12 March 2026 16:45:03 UTC+00:00
To: "Katherine Williams" <Katherine.Williams@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: DM/24/2409 - Slaugham Garden Nursery, Staplefield Road, Slaugham - J004696

Good afternoon Katherine,

Thank you for re-consulting us on the above application and sending on the applicant's updated PEA. This report has confirmed that the area of broken scrubby ground is now not to be removed, although has identified various materials on site which have the potential to provide hibernacula. As the removal of a few minor trees is also required, we are in agreement with the ecological report that a precautionary working method statement is going to be required here in order to adequately safeguard the species. This statement should be written by a suitably qualified ecologist and it is recommended that this statement include ecology supervision, vegetation removal measures, correct material storage and what to do in the event that a GCN is discovered. This statement should either be submitted to the LPA for approval prior to determination or secured via a pre-commencement condition.

Best wishes,

Laura Downs (*she/her*)
District Licensing Officer (Great Crested Newts) – West Sussex

NatureSpace Partnership

e: Laura.Downs@naturespaceuk.com

m: 07356 159774

w: www.naturespaceuk.com

Company operating hours: Monday to Thursday 09:00 - 17:00



From: Katherine Williams <Katherine.Williams@midsussex.gov.uk>

Sent: 20 February 2026 15:57

To: Laura Downs <Laura.Downs@naturespaceuk.com>

Subject: RE: DM/24/2409 - Slaugham Garden Nursery, Staplefield Road, Slaugham - J004696

External: This email is from an external source. Please exercise caution with attachments, links, or requests for information.

Hi Laura,

Following your previous below comments I have received the attached report.

I will send a new consultation request shortly.

Kind Regards

Katherine Williams BSc (Hons) MSc

Senior Planning Officer

Mid Sussex District Council

01444 477214

www.midsussex.gov.uk



MID SUSSEX
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Working together for a better Mid Sussex

From: Laura Downs <Laura.Downs@naturespaceuk.com>

Sent: 12 November 2025 14:27

To: Katherine Williams <Katherine.Williams@midsussex.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: DM/24/2409 - Slaugham Garden Nursery, Staplefield Road, Slaugham - J004696

Good afternoon Katherine,

Thank you for passing along the applicant's email regarding our comments for the above application. In response:

Thank you for drawing my attention to the section within the planning statement which states that the onsite habitats are not to be affected within the newest proposals and therefore it was concluded that a licence or any further mitigation for GCN was no longer required.

The comments that we provided on the 25th of September were informed by the applicant's ecological report, submitted plans and aerial imagery. The below plans that were submitted with this current application show that the area of broken ground (south west) which is to be removed is also covered in scrub, hence the line in our comments regarding scrub removal. This

is also supported by aerial imagery. As GCN can utilise overgrown areas as places for shelter and hibernation, if development plans do include the removal of this area of scrub, then they still have the potential to impact on GCN.

I note that there are some photos included within the ecological report which show that the southern area of the site is well vegetated (and also contains a log pile), however considering the ecological report is now over two years old, if the applicant is able to provide some further updated information and photos of this area which include the broken ground/scrub (as well as the hardstanding area to be removed further north), this would also be useful in our assessment.



EXISTING SITE PLAN



PROPOSED SITE PLAN

NEW FIVE BAR GATE AND



Best wishes,

Laura Downs *(she/her)*

District Licensing Officer (Great Crested Newts) – West Sussex

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NATURESPACE
P A R T N E R S H I P



From: Katherine Williams <Katherine.Williams@midsussex.gov.uk>

Sent: 30 October 2025 17:42

To: Laura Downs <Laura.Downs@naturespaceuk.com>

Subject: FW: DM/24/2409 - Slaugham Garden Nursery, Staplefield Road, Slaugham - J004696

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Hi Laura,

I have received the below information to your previous comments.

Can you provide me with your comments on this.

Kind regards

Katherine Williams BSc (Hons) MSc
Senior Planning Officer
Mid Sussex District Council
01444 477214

www.midsussex.gov.uk



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From: Peter Brownjohn <peter.brownjohn@wspace.co.uk>

Sent: 28 October 2025 17:31

To: Katherine Williams <Katherine.Williams@midsussex.gov.uk>

Cc: 'ws-project@emailworkflowmax.com' <ws-project@emailworkflowmax.com>

Subject: RE: DM/24/2409 - Slaugham Garden Nursery, Staplefield Road, Slaugham - J004696

Dear Ms. Williams,

RE: DM/24/2409 - Slaugham Garden Nursery, Staplefield Road, Slaugham

Thank you for your email. I have relayed the request regarding the red line to the architect.

In respect of Nature Space's comments, I am afraid they come as late, frustrating, and ignorant to the actual merits of the proposal. The report was prepared for a different development, but regarded the whole of the site itself, in August 2023. This application was lodged in October 2024, and so the passage of time has rendered their initial comment about the reports to be correct. However, the remainder of the commentary is ignorant of the actual proposal itself, which does not include scrub removal etc. All that will be undertaken is removal of excess hardstanding and broken ground, and in that regard they have ignored the supporting statement which explicitly sets out that *"As is clear from the submissions, no works would be undertaken that affect the potential habitats present, and this is to be retained."* And *"In this regard, the applicant would confirm that no objection is raised to adherence with the recommendations and mitigation measures set out within Section 6.0 for Bats, Reptiles, Nesting Birds, Invertebrates, Badgers, as well as the proposed faunal enhancements recommended to be provided on site."*

As such, we consider NatureSpace need to review their position on the actual proposals before the LPA, or a disproportionate approach will be applied to a development that will have no impact on GCN due to the proposal being conversion, and not impacting any **potential existing habitat**.

Kind Regards

Peter Brownjohn AssocRTPI

Senior Planner

01737 949879 | peter.brownjohn@wspace.co.uk | www.wspa.co.uk



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Kent Office: Brouard Architects | 1 Bromley Lane | Chislehurst | Kent | BR7 6LH | t: 01689 857253

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From: Katherine Williams <Katherine.Williams@midsussex.gov.uk>

Sent: 23 October 2025 18:23

To: Peter Brownjohn <peter.brownjohn@wspace.co.uk>

Subject: DM/24/2409 - Slaugham Garden Nursery, Staplefield Road, Slaugham

Dear Mr Brownjohn,

My apologies for my lack of communication following our previous emails, which has been due to the current case load.

My manager has raised concern regarding the differing redline boundaries shown on the Location and Proposed Site Plans and request that this is amended.

It has also been considered necessary to consult Nature Space on the Great Crested Newts, as this was an issue raised under a previous appeal on the site. Their comments are attached and require further information.

My apologies again for the delay in bringing this to your attention.

Kind Regards

Katherine Williams BSc (Hons) MSc
Senior Planning Officer
Mid Sussex District Council
01444 477214

www.midsussex.gov.uk



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