

From: Laura Downs <Laura.Downs@naturespaceuk.com>
Sent: 20 May 2026 13:59:09 UTC+01:00
To: "Andrew Horrell" <andrew.horrell@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: DM/26/1070 | Arosa Oldlands Avenue Balcombe Haywards Heath

Good afternoon Andrew,

Planning reference: DM/26/1070 | Arosa Oldlands Avenue Balcombe Haywards Heath

Thank you for consulting us on this application. It is considered that the proposed development would present a low risk to great crested newts and/or their habitats. However, as the development is within the amber Impact Risk Zone, as modelled by district licence mapping, I recommend that the following informative should be attached to planning consent:

"The applicant is reminded that, under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), it is an offence to (amongst other things): deliberately capture, disturb, injure, or kill great crested newts; damage or destroy a breeding or resting place; intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to a resting or sheltering place. Planning permission for a development does not provide a defence against prosecution under this legislation. Should great crested newts be found at any stage of the development works, then all works should cease, and a professional and/or suitably qualified and experienced ecologist (or Natural England) should be contacted for advice on any special precautions before continuing, including the need for a licence."

Best wishes,

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

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