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Dear Sirs

I have further comments on the local plan regarding DRAFT STRATEGIC POLICY SP BG3 "*Biodiversity net gain, rewilding and offsetting*"

From my own point of view I've noticed a decline in urban bird species in my garden, such as sparrows that used to be the most common garden bird. One of the reasons is likely to be loss of nesting sites.. Another bird in decline is the swift. I have seen a few this year but nowhere near the number that were commonly seen in this area. I personally have installed swift boxes in the hope that some birds will find them and nest. However, it is possible to encourage these birds by installing swift bricks in new developments.

The London Plan 2021 Policy G6 Biodiversity and Access to Nature (page 325) calls for artificial nest sites that are of particular relevance and benefit in an urban context and the NPPG 2019 Natural Environment Paragraph 023 mentions that relatively small features can often achieve important benefits for wildlife, such as incorporating 'swift bricks' and bat boxes in developments and providing safe routes for hedgehogs, another animal in decline. All these different animals have a place in the biodiversity of this country and, when developments are considered wildlife highways and nesting/roosting sites are important.

Integrated methods for wildlife are important in that they are low maintenance as they are part of the fabric of buildings.

I hope this important matter can be given consideration. I have lived in this area most of my life and have noticed the decline in many species and feel this needs to be addressed at the root of the problem.