

## Include swift bricks

Jemma Moran [REDACTED]

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To:Neighbourhood Planning [REDACTED]

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Dear Sirs,

Please make sure swift bricks are included as a planning condition within the Odiham and North Warnborough neighbourhood plan. Currently, swift bricks are not part of the Biodiversity New Gains metric (which you mention you will use to measure biodiversity efforts), so you need to specifically mention them in the plan. Swift bricks are urgently required due to a huge national loss of nesting habitat as modern building materials and techniques inadvertently destroy nesting sites. This is resulting in a distressing and rapid decline of swift and other cavity nesting birds.

The sight of swifts wheeling across the sky bring such joy to so many. They are our closest wild neighbours. And yet they face extinction without our help. And the answer is so simple - we *can* helping these magnificent birds. We just need to make sure swift bricks are included in all new building approvals. They are sustainable, sit flush to the wall, cheap and require no maintenance. House martins, starlings, house sparrows, nuthatches, blue tits, coal tits and wrens will also benefit.

These bricks can and will help reverse the decline in our swift populations. It has been done in Gibraltar who have now stabilised their swift numbers after installing the bricks at an industry-wide level. Let's do the same in Odiham and be an example to the rest of the UK.

Yours sincerely,  
Jemma

*5 Western Lane, Odiham, RG29 1TJ.*

**Jemma Moran**  
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