**Guidance note for using letter templates for commenting on planning applications for the protection and provision of swifts in building developments**

Please select the most appropriate letter template according to whether or not swift nest sites are present within the buildings and the nature of the building development described within the planning application.

Tailor all sections marked [*like this*] to make relevant to the local planning application on which you are commenting.

**Letter template 1**

**Are swift nests present?** Yes

**What’s the development?** Major redevelopment/demolition

**What’s the risk?** Major threat:loss of nest sites

**What’s the ask of the Local Authority?** Mitigate with swift bricks – a must for new builds

**Letter template 2**

**Are swift nests present?** No, but the potential is there to attract them to nest

**What’s the development?** New build development

**What’s the risk?** None, to speak of – but there’s opportunity here for biodiversity enhancement

**What’s the ask of the Local Authority?** Mitigate with swift bricks in new builds

**Letter template 3**

**Are swift nests present?** Yes

**What’s the development?** Minor renovation work

**What’s the risk?** Potential loss/blockage of nest sites

**What’s the ask of the Local Authority?** Work outside of the nesting season and retain the old nest holes by matching them exactly.

**Annex**

This can accompany any of the 3 letter templates in order to provide additional guidance, solutions, and resources.