

Nesting Swifts and The Law

Swifts and their nests and eggs are protected by law during the breeding season of late April to September.

It would be lethal to swifts, their eggs and young to prevent access to nest spaces, so it is important not to erect scaffolding during the breeding season or block access with netting.

Remember that swifts need clear pathways to the nest as they swoop up into and down out of the entrance hole.

Contact Salisbury and Wilton Swifts to find out more:

Email: dankron@hotmail.co.uk

Thank you for sharing your home with swifts!

Planning Roofworks?

Install a soffit box to help save swifts from extinction.



Did you know that this area has traditionally been a stronghold for nesting swifts? They migrate back from Africa each summer, to meet their partner at their nest hole, which could be in the eaves of your house!

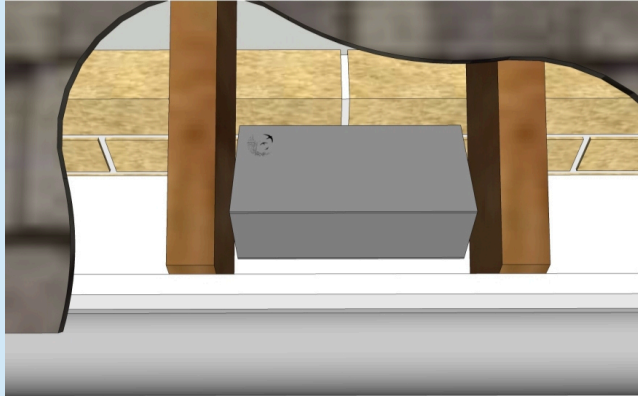
You'll recognise them as the black, arc shaped birds of summer, who scream around the rooftops on warm summer evenings. But apart from these thrilling displays, swifts are quiet, clean and tidy birds who make ideal house guests!

Sadly, these special birds are in steep decline because every time another roof gets repaired or replaced they are evicted, which is bad news as swifts are nest-faithful.

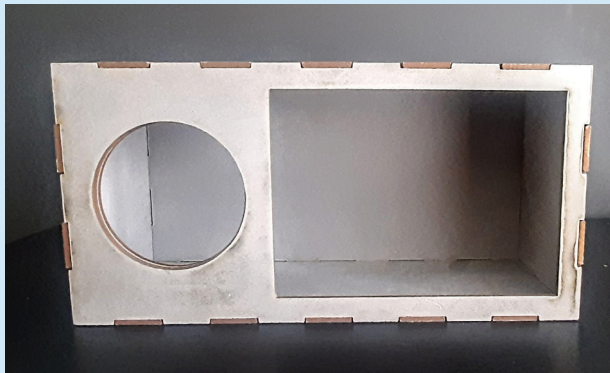
Swifts nest just inside the eaves, they don't build a mud nest like house martins. Eventually all the roofs will be lost to them forever and our skies will fall silent. Swifts don't nest in trees - roof spaces are absolutely vital to them.

But it doesn't have to be this way. If you are planning a new roof you can get an internal soffit box or two, neatly fitted into your new eaves with a small entrance hole which still allows enough access to swifts into a small contained space.

Our Swift Conservation Group can answer your questions and we may even have funding to cover the cost of the soffit boxes as part of our commitment to help keep our skies alive.



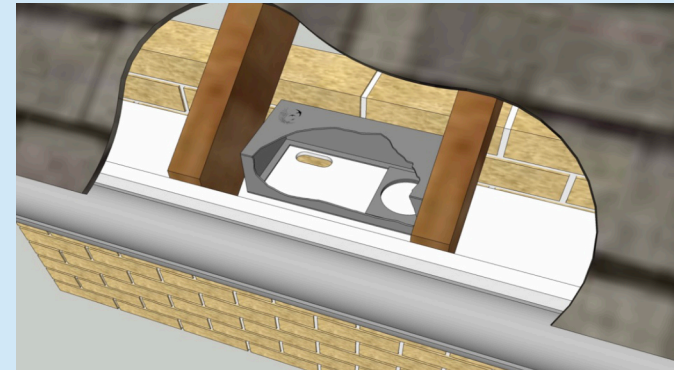
This soffit box, designed by engineers at Action for Swifts, sits inside your soffit and provides an enclosed nest chamber. No wildlife can get beyond the enclosure.



View of soffit box from underneath, before fitting.

It is a simple and effective solution. Eaves should be at least 5 metres off the ground with a clear flight path for swifts to swoop up into and out of the entrance hole.

Eaves that are at least 15 cm wide should provide enough space.



Soffit box fitted, with cutaway to show interior for illustration

Entrance holes are neat and barely discernable from ground level.



The soffit boxes are manufactured in the UK by Action for Swifts. They are lightweight and are glued to the inside of the boxed-in soffit.

To find out more, please scan the QR code here:



It's as simple as that!
Just give us a call when you are thinking of repairs to your roof, and we'll advise and help as best we can.

With your help, swifts will continue to be a feature of our summers.

We can't save them from extinction without you!