

Gleeds, Hinckley College

BAT SURVEY REPORT

784-B039151 V1



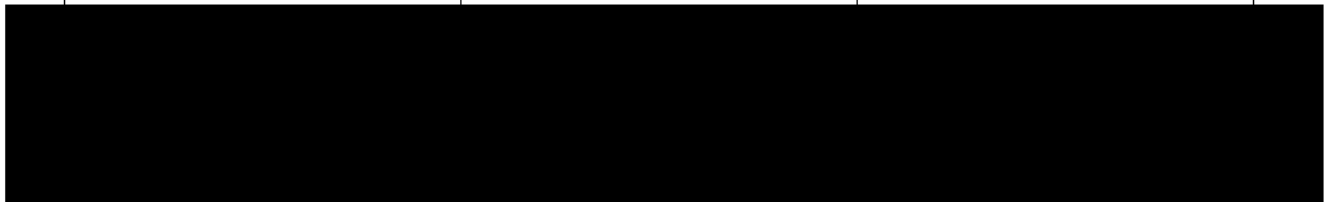
Gleeds

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CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION	3
1.1 Background	3
1.2 Site Location	3
1.3 Development Proposals	3
2.0 METHODOLOGY	4
2.1 Desk Study	4
2.1.1 Previous Reports	4
2.1.2 Local Ecological Records Centre	4
2.2 Field Surveys	4
2.2.1 External Building Bat Roost Assessment	4
2.2.2 Bat Presence / Likely Absence Surveys – Buildings	4
2.3 Limitations	8
3.0 BASELINE CONDITIONS	9
3.1 Desk Study	9
3.1.1 Previous Reports	9
3.1.2 Local Records Centre	9
3.1.3 Online Resources	9
3.2 Field Surveys	9
3.2.1 External Building Bat Roost Assessment	9
3.2.2 Bat Emergence Survey (Buildings B1, B2, B3 and B14) – 9 th May 2022	9
3.2.3 Bat Emergence Survey (Building B3) – 15 th June 2022	10
3.2.4 Bat Re-entry Survey (Building B1) – 16 th June 2022	10
3.2.5 Bat Emergence Survey (Buildings B1) – 4 ^h July 2022	10
3.2.6 Bat Re-entry Survey (Buildings B2 and B2) – 5 th July 2022	10
DISCUSSION	12
3.3 Development Impacts	12
3.3.1 Roosting bats	12
3.4 Mitigation and enhancement	12
3.4.1 Roosting Bats	12
3.4.2 Breathable Roof Membranes	12
3.4.3 Lighting	12
4.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION	13

5.0 REFERENCES	14
FIGURES.....	15
APPENDIX A – REPORT CONDITIONS	16
APPENDIX B – PLANNING POLICY & LEGISLATION.....	17
Revised National Planning Policy Framework	17
Legislation	18
APPENDIX C - BAT BOXES.....	20

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Contents	Summary
Site Location	The 'site' is located at Hinckley College, Hinckley in Leicestershire and is centred at OSNGR SP 43998 94547 – see Figure 1. The site comprises a school with associated buildings, hardstanding, broad-leaved scattered trees, amenity grassland, two waterbodies and intact species-poor hedgerows on the northern and eastern site boundaries. The site is located within an urban setting with residential housing to the north and the west of the site, Hinckley golf course to the east, and arable fields to the south.
Proposals	The 'Preliminary Proposal' for the site includes the construction of a new building on the school grounds. The proposal also includes the demolition of four buildings (B1, B2, B3 and B14) and the provision of new hard and soft landscaping of some areas of the site.
Existing Site Information	TetraTech have previously produced a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal report for the site (Tetra tech, 2021).
Scope of this Survey(s)	The scope of this survey and report was to conduct a suite of nocturnal emergence and re-entry bat surveys on four buildings (B1, B2, B3 and B14) which are due to be demolished under current proposals.
Results	No bats were observed emerging from or re-entering into the buildings. However, on two survey occasions, one BLE bat was observed, circling close to building B1, but not returning to roost in the building. The bat was observed circling around a partial gap within the chipboard covering on the wall, along the eastern elevation of the building. It is considered that this bat could roost in building B1 between the last survey and intended demolition. No bats were recorded roosting within any of the buildings on site.
Recommendations	Enhancement opportunities which could be included within any future development are: Bat boxes, bat tiles and bat bricks. In addition, alongside any development enhancement of greenspaces with appropriate landscaping design inclusive of native species of local provenance which will benefit bats and maintain habitat connectivity. Any lighting should be kept to as close to existing as possible with no more the 1 lux above the existing light levels where possible.

GLOSSARY

BCT	Bat Conservation Trust
BSI	British Standard Institute
BMCL	Bat Mitigation Class Licence
CEnv	Chartered Environmentalist
CIEEM	Chartered Institute of Ecology & Environmental Management
CRoW Act	Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
DEFRA	Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
ECOW	Ecological Clerk of Works
EPS	European Protected Species
EPSML	European Protected Species Mitigation Licence
Habitats Regulations	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)
HAP	Habitat Action Plan
LERC	Local Ecological Record Centre
LPA	Local Planning Authority
MCIEEM	Member of Chartered Institute of Ecology & Environmental Management
Natura 2000 site	A European site designated for its nature conservation value
NE	Natural England
NERC Act	Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
PEA	Preliminary Ecological Appraisal
W&CA	Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

Tetra Tech was commissioned by Gleeds in April 2022 to undertake bat presence / absence surveys of the site known as Hinckley College in Hinckley, Leicestershire.

An Ecological Appraisal undertaken in June 2021 assessed the buildings (B1, B2, B3 and B14) as offering bat roost suitability and recommended further survey (Tetra Tech, 2021).

This report has been prepared by Tetra Tech Project Ecologist Tom Cumberland and the conditions pertinent to it are provided in Appendix A.

1.2 SITE LOCATION

The 'site' is located at Hinckley College in Hinckley in Leicestershire and is centred at Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (OSNGR) SP 43998 94547– see Figure 1. The site comprises a school with associated buildings, hardstanding, broad-leaved scattered trees, amenity grassland, two waterbodies and intact species-poor hedgerows on the northern and eastern site boundaries.

The site is located within an urban setting with residential housing to the north and the west of the site, Hinckley golf course to the east, and arable fields to the south.

1.3 DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

The 'Preliminary Proposal' for the site includes the construction of a new building on the school grounds. The proposal also includes demolition of buildings B1, B2, B3 and B14 and hard and soft landscaping of some areas of the site. of the Report

The purpose of this report is to:

- Outline the legislative protection given to bats;
- Detail existing bat records, locally designated sites of relevance within 2km of the site and internationally designated sites for bats within 20km of the site;
- Summarise the findings of the bat emergence / re-entry surveys and report on the presence / likely absence of bat species roosting at the site; and
- Provide an assessment of the potential ecological constraints to the proposed development and any recommendations for any further surveys, avoidance, mitigation or enhancement measures that are required (as appropriate).

Note that scientific names are provided at the first mention of each species and common names (where appropriate) are then used throughout the rest of the report for ease of reading.

A summary of the key legislation is also provided in Appendix B.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

2.1 DESK STUDY

2.1.1 Previous Reports

TetraTech have previously produced a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal report for the site (Tetra Tech, 2021).

2.1.2 Local Ecological Records Centre

Data was requested as part of the Ecological Appraisal from a number of sources as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Desk Study data obtained

Data Source	Data Received	Data obtained
Magic ¹	July 2021	Statutory Designated Sites, Impact Risk Zones, EPS licences for bats and GCN and Priority habitats
Leicester & Rutland Environmental Records Centre (LRERC)	July 2021	A search was made of statutory, non-statutory and protected and notable records within 2km of the centre of the site.

The data search did not cover:

- Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs); or
- Conservation Areas designated for their special architectural and historic interest.

Note that relevant extracts from the desk study are provided in Appendix C, as appropriate.

2.2 FIELD SURVEYS

2.2.1 External Building Bat Roost Assessment

An external building assessment was undertaken previously in 2021, during the ecological appraisal, which identified buildings B1 and B3 as having high bat roost suitability, B2 as having moderate bat roost suitability and B14 as having low bat roost suitability.

2.2.2 Bat Presence / Likely Absence Surveys – Buildings

Two dusk emergence survey(s) and one separate (not within the same 24hr period) dawn re-entry survey was undertaken. Surveyor details, dates and weather conditions are detailed in Table 2 below. The building locations and surveyor positions are provided in Figure 2.

As per BCT Guidelines the dusk emergence surveys began at least 15 minutes prior to sunset and continued for between 1.5 and 2 hours after sunset. The dawn survey began between 1.5 and 2 hours

¹ www.magic.gov.uk

prior to sunrise and continued until at least 15 minutes after sunrise or until there were no more bats recorded in flight.

Surveyors used Elekon Batlogger M / Elekon Batlogger M2 detectors. These detectors use a broad-spectrum microphone and use heterodyne to make bat calls audible while recording full spectrum data to enable subsequent analysis. All bat activity heard and / or seen was noted by surveyors including time of observation.

Table 2: Surveyor details, dates and weather conditions for bat emergence/re-entry surveys.
Wind speed uses Beaufort scale. Cloud cover uses Oktas Scale

Date of survey	Building surveyed	Sunrise / sunset	Start (S)	Finish (F)	Temperature (in °C) S/F	Rain S/F	Wind speed (Beaufort Scale) S/F	Cloud cover (%) S/F
09.05.2022	B1, B2, B3 and B14	20:45	20:30	22:15	18/17	None	1/1	50/80
Surveyor names and survey licence number where applicable	- Elizabeth Sanders MCIEEM Principal Ecologist (Natural England Class 2 bat licence number 2015-10986-CLS-CLS); - Richard Brown ACIEEM Senior Ecologist; - Thomas Cumberland Project Ecologist; - Skye Jakeman Assistant Ecologist; - Sophie Lunn Field Ecologist; - Ellis Wood Field Ecologist; - Anna Andrzejczyk Field Ecologist; - Frida Backstrom Field Ecologist; - Jasmine Freeman Field Ecologist.							
15.06.2022	B3	21:30	21:15	23:00	11/10	None	2/1	10/20
Surveyor names and survey licence number where applicable	- Elizabeth Sanders MCIEEM Principal Ecologist (Natural England Class 2 bat licence number 2015-10986-CLS-CLS); - Richard Brown ACIEEM Senior Ecologist; - Thomas Cumberland Project Ecologist; - Edward Selvey Consultant Ecologist; - Sophie Lunn Field Ecologist.							
16.06.2022	B1	04:41	03:10	04:56	12/11	None	1/0	20/20

Date of survey	Building surveyed	Sunrise / sunset	Start (S)	Finish (F)	Temperature (in °C) S/F	Rain S/F	Wind speed (Beaufort Scale) S/F	Cloud cover (%) S/F
Surveyor names and survey licence number where applicable	- Richard Brown ACIEEM Senior Ecologist; - Thomas Cumberland Project Ecologist; - Edward Selvey Consultant Ecologist							
Date of survey	Building surveyed	Sunrise / sunset	Start (S)	Finish (F)	Temperature (in °C) S/F	Rain S/F	Wind speed (Beaufort scale) S/F	Cloud cover (%) S/F
04.07.2022	B1	21:30	21:15	23:00	17/12	None	2/1	20/0
Surveyor names and survey licence number where applicable	- Victoria Thomas Associate Ecologist MCIEEM; and - Thomas Cumberland Project Ecologist.							
05.07.2022	B2 and B3	04:49	03:19	05:04	12/14	None	0/0	30/10
Surveyor names and survey licence number where applicable	- Victoria Thomas Associate Ecologist MCIEEM - Claire Dovey Principal Ecologist ACIEEM and Natural England Class 2 licence number 2015-12376-CLS-CLS - Thomas Cumberland Project Ecologist; - Sophie Lunn Assistant Ecologist; - Anna Andrzejczyk Assistant Ecologist.							

2.3 LIMITATIONS

The optimal period to undertake bat presence / likely absence surveys is between May and August, although surveys in April and September may aid in identifying pre-maternity gathering roosts or transitional roosts. The surveys were completed in May, June and July which is inside the optimal survey window and are therefore compliant with the levels of survey effort required for the suitability assigned to these building. Each survey was separated by a period of at least two weeks and weather conditions were suitable for the entirety of each survey. Therefore, there were no constraints associated with survey timing or weather conditions.

The surveys were completed with the assistance of bat detectors. All survey techniques are subject to bias, and bat detector surveys may under-record species with weak echolocation calls, such as brown long-eared bats. However, these biases were considered when interpreting the results. (It is also of note that Batloggers are very effective at picking up quiet calls from brown long-eared bats). Some bat calls are variable and extremely similar between species. Where identification to species level was not possible (for example in the *Myotis* bat group), bats were identified to family level (e.g. *Myotis* sp.). where call parameters were inconclusive the species has been labelled as 'unknown'. This allows the dataset to be interpreted accurately and transparently.

Bats vary their calls dependent on the habitats they fly in and on their activity (commuting, foraging, social interaction, etc). It is not always possible to identify bat calls to species level owing to the overlap of call parameters between some species and / or poor-quality recordings (e.g. brief and distant passes). In these cases, it is accepted that species are identified to genus level or group level (e.g. *Myotis*, *Myotis* / *Plecotus* and *Nyctalus* / *Eptesicus*) (BCT Guidelines). Where call parameters are inconclusive the species has been labelled as 'unknown'. This allows the dataset to be interpreted accurately and transparently.

As light levels drop after dusk, the visibility of features decreases over time. Conversely for dawn surveys, light levels are worst at the start of the survey, with visibility of features improving approaching sunrise. However, surveyors were positioned appropriately to ensure that any bats flying over or around each building would be recorded and therefore emergence or re-entries would be identified. Based on the species assemblage recorded and their usual emergence / re-entry times, it is considered that visibility after dusk and pre-dawn was not a constraint during surveys.

To determine presence or likely absence of protected species usually requires multiple visits at suitable times of the year. As a result, these surveys focus on assessing the potential of the site to support species of note, which are considered to be of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity with reference to those given protection under UK or European wildlife legislation. This report cannot therefore be considered a comprehensive assessment of the ecological interest of the site. However, it does provide an assessment of the ecological interest present on the day the site was visited and highlights areas where further survey work may be recommended.

The details of this report will remain valid for a period of one year from the date of the survey, until July 2023 (CIEEM, 2019), after which the validity of this assessment and the presence / absence surveys should be reviewed to determine whether further updates are necessary. Note that the recommendations within this report should be reviewed (and reassessed if necessary) should there be any changes to the red line boundary or development proposals which this report was based on.

3.0 BASELINE CONDITIONS

3.1 DESK STUDY

3.1.1 Previous Reports

TetraTech have previously produced a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal report for the site (Tetra Tech, 2021), which identified the buildings B1 and B2 as having high bat roost suitability. The report identified building B3 as having moderate bat roost suitability and also identified building B14 as having low bat roost suitability.

3.1.2 Local Records Centre

A total of seven species of bat records were returned by LRERC.

The desk study returned records for the following species including, common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, soprano pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*, brown-long eared *Plecotus auritus*, Leisler's bat *Nyctalus leisleri*, Nathusius's pipistrelle *Pipistrellus nathusii*, western Barbastelle *Barbastella barbastellus* and noctule bat *Nyctalus noctula*. The most recent record was from 2017 for common pipistrelle.

There were no sites identified within 20km of the site which were designated for bats.

3.1.3 Online Resources

MAGIC returned no granted EPS licences within the 2 km search.

3.2 FIELD SURVEYS

3.2.1 External Building Bat Roost Assessment

During the 2021 Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, buildings B1 and B3 was assessed as offering high suitability for use by roosting bats. Building B2 was assessed as offering moderate suitability for use by roosting bats and building B14 was assessed as offering low suitability for use by roosting bats. Detailed results of the external building assessment are given in the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal report previously issued by Tetra Tech to Gleeds in 2021.

3.2.2 Bat Emergence Survey (Buildings B1, B2, B3 and B14) – 9th May 2022

Bats did not emerge from or return to roost in the buildings during the survey.

The first bat recorded was a common pipistrelle at 21:02 (17 minutes after sunset), this bat was observed commuting over building B1 from the north-east, passing over the site and flying south-east, towards the site's eastern boundary. Bat activity including foraging was observed intermittently throughout the survey by common pipistrelles. Up to two individual bats were recorded foraging along the tree line on the northern boundary of the site.

Only one bat, a common pipistrelle, was recorded within the vicinity of B14 at 21:31 (46 minutes after sunset). This bat was observed commuting from the west to the eastern site boundary, likely heading towards the golf course to forage.

Bat flight paths observed are shown in Figure 2.

Subsequent sound analysis did not identify any additional species during the survey.

3.2.3 Bat Emergence Survey (Building B3) – 15th June 2022

Bats did not emerge from or return to roost in the buildings during the survey.

The first bat recorded was a noctule at 21:42 (12 minutes after sunset), this bat was observed commuting over the building from east to west. Bat activity including foraging and commuting was observed intermittently throughout the survey by common pipistrelles and by up to two individual bats along the site's northern boundary, which is lined with trees. Throughout the survey, intermittent passes of common pipistrelle and noctules were observed, commuting over the building between the eastern and western boundaries of the site. The last bat of the survey was recorded at 22:55 (1 hour and 25 minutes after sunset) which was a common pipistrelle that was recorded but not observed.

Bat flight paths observed are shown in Figure 3.

Subsequent sound analysis did not identify any additional species during the survey.

3.2.4 Bat Re-entry Survey (Building B1) – 16th June 2022

Bats did not emerge from or return to roost in the buildings during the survey.

The first bat recorded was a brown long eared (BLE) bat at 03:20 (one hour and 19 minutes before sunrise), this bat was observed commuting. Bat activity including foraging and commuting was observed intermittently for a brief period of 20 minutes (between 03:20 to 03:40) by a single BLE. This BLE bat was observed flying close to the building for several minutes, however this bat was not observed entering the building. The bat was observed circling around a partial gap within the chipboard covering on the wall, along the eastern elevation of the building. The second and final bat of the survey was a common pipistrelle which was observed commuting over the building at 04:03 (38 minutes prior to sunrise), from east to north towards the site's northern boundary.

Bat flight paths observed are shown in Figure 4.

Subsequent sound analysis did not identify any additional species during the survey.

3.2.5 Bat Emergence Survey (Buildings B1) – 4th July 2022

Bats did not emerge from or return to roost in the building during the survey.

The first bat recorded was a common pipistrelle at 21:50 (20 minutes after sunset), this bat was observed foraging along the northern site boundary. Bat activity including foraging was observed throughout the survey, with as many as three individual common pipistrelle bats observed in flight at any one time. A noctule bat was recorded but not observed at 22:30 (1 hour after sunset). The final bat of the survey was a common pipistrelle which was recorded but not observed at 22:50 (1 hour and 20 minutes after sunset).

Bat flight paths observed are shown in Figure 5.

Subsequent sound analysis did not identify any additional species during the survey.

3.2.6 Bat Re-entry Survey (Buildings B2 and B2) – 5th July 2022

Bats did not emerge from or return to roost in the buildings during the survey.

The first bat recorded was a brown long-eared bat at 03:27 (one hour and 23 minutes prior to sunrise). This bat was observed commuting past building B1 and B2, between the bridge connecting the two

buildings. This bat was observed commuting around B1, which was not being surveyed on this occasion, but was located in close proximity to the surveyor observing B2. Common pipistrelle bats were occasionally recorded but not observed by surveyors surrounding B1 between 03:52 (58 minutes before sunrise) and 04:20 (30 minutes before sunrise). At 04:22 (28 minutes before sunrise), the last bat of the survey, a common pipistrelle was observed passing between buildings B1 and B2, flying towards the eastern boundary of the site.

Bat flight paths observed are shown in Figure 6.

Subsequent sound analysis did not identify any additional species during the survey.

3.2.6.1 Summary of roosts present

No bats were identified as roosting in any of the buildings surveyed at the site (B1, B2, B3 and B14).

It is considered that building B1 is suitable to support roosting bats and on two of the three dawn re-entry survey occasions, a BLE bat was observed passing the building B1 on two survey occasions (16th June 2022 and 5th July 2022).

Building B1 has two potential roosts features that could be used by crevice roosting species such as BLE or common pipistrelle. The BLE activity recorded close to the building during the two dawn re-entry surveys suggest this bat may use the building. However, this could not be confirmed during any of the surveys as the bat did not return to roost in either of the features.

DISCUSSION

3.3 DEVELOPMENT IMPACTS

3.3.1 Roosting bats

Bats were not recorded roosting in the buildings during the surveys.

No bats were observed emerging from or re-entering into the buildings during the dusk emergence and dawn re-entry surveys.

Given the activity of a single BLE on two survey occasions, and the potential roost features noted on B1 it is recommended that an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) is present on the site prior to the building demolition. The ECoW would carry out an endoscope inspection of all features that could be used by roosting bats prior to any strip of materials from those locations.

In the unlikely event bats or evidence of roosting bats (e.g. droppings) is discovered prior to or during these works, then works must cease immediately to avoid an offence being committed and a licensed bat ecologist consulted to determine an appropriate course of action.

If works do not begin by **July 2023** an update bat building inspection and / or nocturnal surveys may be needed to update site conditions, under the guidance of a licensed bat ecologist.

3.4 MITIGATION AND ENHANCEMENT

3.4.1 Roosting Bats

Bats were not recorded roosting in building B1 and therefore to mitigate for the loss of potential roosting features it is recommended that three bat access tiles and / or access bricks are installed within the new development. The types of access tiles and access bricks available are provided in Appendix E.

Enhancement of the roosting opportunities available at the site can be achieved by incorporating a further three bat boxes within the development, located on retained trees adjacent to the to be demolished buildings. This will support the site in meeting NPPF / Local Policy obligations. The types of boxes available are provided in Appendix E.

3.4.2 Breathable Roof Membranes

In new buildings, best practice should be considered, and the use of breathable roof membranes (BRM) avoided. Instead, Type 1F bitumen and hessian under-felt should be considered as an alternative. Ongoing research has confirmed that no BRM are 'bat-friendly' and all pose a risk to bats. As the membranes wear over time the fibres in the membrane become loose. Bats become entangled in the fibres and, unable to escape, dehydrate, and starve to death. Therefore, the use of BRMs within bat roosts is not permitted.

As well as posing a risk to bats, BRMs are also degraded by bats and the efficiency of the membrane is impaired (i.e. the use of BRMs in situations where bats are present is detrimental to the efficient functioning of the BRM as well as to bats. Further detail is provided in Waring *et al.* (2013)).

3.4.3 Lighting

As part of the proposed development scheme lighting should adhere to best practice guidance (ILP, 2018) with the following recommendations:

- Where new lighting is required, this should be carefully designed to minimise disturbance to foraging and commuting bats identified during surveys as using the boundary habitats onsite (i.e. northern boundary tree line);
- No direct lighting onto the site boundary habitats, trees or landscaping;
- Consideration of the available lighting technology to minimise impacts on bats, i.e:
 - use of LED lighting (as opposed to high pressure sodium, mercury, and white SON). These have been shown to have the least impact on bats (as well as invertebrates) as they emit little UV light (which attracts invertebrates), and these lamps can be programmed to switch off, or dim at certain times;
- Lighting should be no more than 1 Lux higher than present levels;
- Colour temperature of any lighting will not be above 4000K;
- Directional lighting to avoid light spillage. Hoods / cowls can be used to direct light below the horizontal plane (ideally at an angle less than 70 degrees);
- Lux levels no more than 0.4 lux on the vertical plane;
- The number and wattage of lights will be kept to a minimum and located away from boundary habitats;
- Lights switched off at night (particularly during the months of March to October, inclusive when bats are active), or at least motion sensed.

4.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The emergence and re-entry surveys conducted on buildings B1, B2, B3 and B14 concluded that the buildings were not used by bats to roost. However, a single BLE was recorded flying close to building B1 during two of the re-entry surveys and a precautionary approach is therefore recommended for this building as it is considered a possible roost location which may be infrequently used or could be used on an opportunistic basis.

It is recommended that an ECoW is present on the site, prior to the demolition of building B1 to endoscope features to check for opportunistic bat occupation prior to the commencement of works.

Enhancement measures that will benefit bat species using the site and meet the government objectives for planning to protect and enhance biodiversity should also be included within the design of the development proposals. Given the buildings have high, moderate and low suitability to be used as bat roost locations, the following should be provided as enhancement within the proposed development:

- A total of three bat tiles / bricks should be included within the development (Appendix E);
- A total of three bat boxes should be included within the site boundary, on retained trees located adjacent from the to be demolished buildings (Appendix E); and,
- Breathable roof membranes such as Type 1F bitumen and hessian under-felt should be considered as being implemented into the design of the new structures to allow access for bats.

5.0 REFERENCES

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- Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended), HMSO.

Please note that the legislation which is relevant to this report is not included in the list above, but details are included in Appendix B below.

FIGURES

Figure 1 – Site Location Plan

Figure 2 – Bat Survey Results – 9th May 2022

Figure 3 – Bat Survey Results – 15th June 2022

Figure 4 – Bat Survey Results – 16th June 2022

Figure 5 – Bat Survey Results – 4th July 2022

Figure 6 – Bat Survey Results – 5th July 2022



Site Location Plan

Hinckley

Gleeds



Legend

Site boundary

Notes:

Drawn by: SB
Checked by: TC
Office: Southampton

Figure No. 1
Revision No. A

0 70 140 210 Meters
Scale 1 5,000 @A3

14 July 2021
NGR: 443881E 294420N

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The Pavilion, 1st Floor
Botleigh Grange
Office Campus
Hedge End
Southampton
Hampshire, SO30 2AF



Bat Emergence Survey
9th May 2022
Hinckley Academy



Gleeds

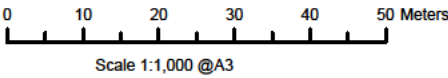
Legend

-  Buildings
-  Common Pipistrelle Bat
-  Surveyor Locations

Notes:

Drawn by: MS
Checked by: TC
Office: Southampton

Figure No. 2
Revision No. A



12 August 2022
NGR: 444041E 294559N

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The Pavilion, 1st Floor
Botleigh Grange
Office Campus
Hedge End
Southampton
Hampshire, SO30 2AF

Maxar, Microsoft



Bat Emergence Survey
15th June 2022
Hinckley Academy



Gleeds

Legend

-  Buildings
-  Common Pipistrelle Bat
-  Noctule Bat
-  Surveyor Locations

Notes:

Drawn by: MS
Checked by: TC
Office: Southampton

Figure No. 3
Revision No. A

0 10 20 30 40 50 Meters
Scale 1:1,000 @A3

12 August 2022
NGR: 444041E 294559N

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Bat Re-Entry Survey 16th June 2022 Hinckley Academy



Gleeds

Legend

-  Buildings
-  Brown Long-Eared Bat
-  Common Pipistrelle Bat
-  Surveyor Locations

Notes:

Drawn by: MS
Checked by: TC
Office: Southampton

Figure No. 4
Revision No. A

0 10 20 30 40 50 Meters
Scale 1:1,000 @A3

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Bat Emergence Survey

4th July 2022

Hinckley Academy



Gleeds

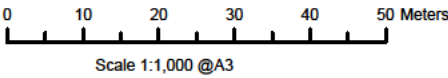
Legend

-  Buildings
-  Common Pipistrelle Bat
-  Surveyor Locations

Notes:

Drawn by: MS
Checked by: TC
Office: Southampton

Figure No. 5
Revision No. A



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Bat Re-Entry Survey
5th July 2022
Hinckley Academy



Gleeds

Legend

-  Buildings
-  Brown Long-Eared Bat
-  Common Pipistrelle Bat
-  Surveyor Locations

Notes:

Drawn by: MS
Checked by: TC
Office: Southampton

Figure No. 6
Revision No. A

0 10 20 30 40 50 Meters
Scale 1:1,000 @A3

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APPENDIX A – REPORT CONDITIONS

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The whole of the report must be read as other sections of the report may contain information which puts into context the findings in any executive summary.

The performance of environmental protection measures and of buildings and other structures in relation to acoustics, vibration, noise mitigation and other environmental issues is influenced to a large extent by the degree to which the relevant environmental considerations are incorporated into the final design and specifications and the quality of workmanship and compliance with the specifications on site during construction. Tetra Tech accept no liability for issues with performance arising from such factors.

APPENDIX B – PLANNING POLICY & LEGISLATION

REVISED NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK

A revised NPPF was issued on 20th July 2021 (Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government, 2021) and currently supplements government Circular 06/2005, *Biodiversity and Geological Conservation: Statutory Obligations and their Impact within the Planning System* (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, 2005).

Circular 06/2005 states that the presence of protected species is a material consideration in the planning process. Paragraph 174 of the NPPF also states that:

'Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural environment by:

- a) protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan)*
- b) recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland*
- c) maintaining the character of the undeveloped coast, while improving public access to it where appropriate*
- d) minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures*
- e) preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans; and*
- f) remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.*

The conservation and enhancement of wildlife is also specifically reference re: development within the National Parks or the Broads.

Paragraph 180 then goes on to confirm that:

When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should apply the following principles:

- a) if significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused;*
- b) development on land within or outside a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and which is likely to have an adverse effect on it (either individually or in combination with other developments), should not normally be permitted. The only exception is where the benefits of the development in the location proposed clearly outweigh both its likely impact on the features of the site that make it of special scientific interest, and any broader impacts on the national network of Sites of Special Scientific Interest;*

- c) *development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists; and*
- d) *development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to incorporate biodiversity improvements in and around developments should be encouraged, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity.*

Regarding EclA's and HRA's – any sites identified, or required, as compensatory measures for adverse effects on any Natura 2000/habitats site should also be given the same level as protection as the pSPA's and cSAC's themselves. In addition, when an application is being determined, Paragraph 182 clarifies that:

“The presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply where the plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a habitats site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), unless an appropriate assessment has concluded that the plan or project will not adversely affect the integrity of the habitats site.”

Paragraph 185 is also relevant as;

Planning policies and decisions should also ensure that new development is appropriate for its location taking into account the likely effects (including cumulative effects) of pollution on health, living conditions and the natural environment, as well as the potential sensitivity of the site or the wider area to impacts that could arise from the development. In doing so they should:...

- c) *limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation.*

LEGISLATION

All British bat species are given special protection within England by their inclusion on Schedule 2 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) and Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

As a result, it is an offence to:

- Deliberately capture, injure or kill a bat;
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat in its roost or deliberately disturb a group of bats;
- Damage or destroy a bat's roosting place (even if bats are not occupying a roost at the time);
- Possess or advertise, sell or exchange a bat (dead or alive) or any part of a bat; and
- Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to a bat roost.

Where development will result in damage to suitable habitat where the species is known to be present, or risk harming or significantly disturbing bats, an EPSML is likely to be required from NE to allow the development to proceed.

Bats are also afforded more general protection in England (and Wales) within the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC Act) 2006. This imposes a duty on all public bodies, including local authorities and statutory bodies, in exercising their functions, “to have due regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity” [Section 40 (1)]. It notes that “conserving biodiversity includes restoring or enhancing a population or habitat” [Section 40 (3)]. Consequently, attention should be given to dealing with the modification or development of an area if aspects of it are deemed important to bats, such as roosts, flight corridors and foraging areas.

Section 41 (S41) of this Act requires the Secretary of State to publish a list (in consultation with NE) of habitats and species which are of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity in England. The S41 list is used to guide decision-makers such as public bodies including local and regional authorities, when carrying out their normal (e.g. planning) functions. The S41 list includes 65 habitats of principal importance and 1,150 species of principal importance.

Seven species of bat are listed under Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006; soprano pipistrelle, brown long-eared bat, greater horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*, lesser horseshoe bat, barbastelle *Barbastella barbastellus*, Bechstein's bat *Myotis bechsteinii* and noctule.

APPENDIX C - BAT BOXES

Introduction

The information in this appendix relates to bat boxes that can be easily incorporated into building and landscape plans. The information provided is not exhaustive and provides examples of some of the types of boxes available.

Including bat boxes throughout the development site has a number of benefits:

- Any roosting or resting places lost as a result of the work will be replaced;
- The ecological value of the site will be enhanced;
- Priority species within the UK and local Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs) will be encouraged.

Bats

For Buildings

The inclusion of a variety of bat bricks, tubes and boxes for buildings is recommended to encourage a diversity of bat species. Bat bricks and tubes require no maintenance.

Built-in bat box

(can be faced to suit building design)



Bat tube

(can be bricked in or rendered over into the façade)



Bat access block to allow access into a cavity wall



Heated maternity box (operated on a conventional socket, 50watt heater near the base to provide a thermostatically controlled artificially warm roost)



Hibernation box e.g. Schwegler 1WQ



For Buildings and Trees

The following box types are recommended.

Bat Box

The Schwegler 1FF bat box is made of woodcrete and is expected to last approximately 25 years. It has a narrow crevice-like internal space to attract Pipistrelle and Noctule bats. Woodcrete (75% wood sawdust, concrete and clay mixture). It can be mounted on buildings or trees.

Width: 27cm; Height: 43cm; Weight: 8.3kg.

The Harlech woodstone bat box is made from woodstone, the Harlech is a small cavity bat box that offers excellent insulation and minimum condensation for roosting bats. It can be mounted on buildings or trees.

Width: 15cm; Height: 27.5cm; Weight: 4kg.

The Beaumaris woodstone bat box comes in small and large versions and is suitable for mounting on buildings or trees.

Small –29 x 40 x 7cm

Large 38 x 50 x 7cm

Weight: 8kg.

The Vincent Pro bat box is a tried and tested design by the Vincent Wildlife Trust.

Width: 23.5cm; Height: 72cm; Weight: 6.9kg.

