

MAP 2 Warrender Primary School - Habitats & Bat Inspection Results

KEY

- Site boundary
- Amenity grassland
- Vegetable patch
- Tall ruderal
- Introduced shrub
- Building
- Hardstanding
- Building with low potential for bats
- Building with negligible potential for bats
- Hedgerow
- Fence
- Scattered trees
- Building reference (with ID)
- Target note (with ID)
- Tree (with ID)

SCALE: 1:700 at A3

0 10 20 30 40 Metres



Ecological Planning & Research

CLIENT: London Borough of Hillingdon

PROJECT: Schools of Hillingdon

DATE: August 2015

Appendix 1

Applicable Nature Conservation Related Legislation and Policy

Appendix 1 is intended to provide an overview of the main features of legislation and policy relating to nature conservation in England and the implications for development.

KEY WILDLIFE LEGISLATION

Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended)

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010¹ (known as the “Habitats Regulations”) transpose Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (the European “Habitats Directive”) into UK legislation. These regulations consolidate all the various amendments made to the preceding “Conservation Regulations” 1994 for England and Wales.

The Habitats Regulations were amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) Regulations 2012.²

The Habitats Regulations provide for the designation of both Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) in the UK, which form part of the Natura 2000 network of protected areas across Europe. The Regulations also prohibit the deliberate capture, killing or disturbance of European Protected Species (EPS), which include *inter alia* Dormouse *Muscardinus avellanarius*, Great Crested Newt *Triturus cristatus*, Otter *Lutra lutra* and all native species of bat, and make it an offence to destroy or damage either the nesting or breeding sites of these species. The above actions can be made lawful through the granting of licenses after Natural England (the licensing authority in England) is satisfied that there are no satisfactory alternatives and that such actions will have no detrimental effect on wild population of the EPS.

Further information on SPAs, SACs and European Protected Species (Licensing and Protected Species) is provided in the relevant sub-sections of this Appendix.

Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981³ is the principal mechanism for the legislative protection of wildlife in Great Britain. Various amendments have occurred since the original enactment. Certain species of bird, animal and plant (including all of the European Protected Species listed above) are afforded protection under Schedules 1, 5 and 8 of the Act. Reference is made to the various Schedules and Parts of this Act (**Table A1.1**) in the section of this Appendix dealing with Legally Protected Species. The Act also contains measures for the protection of the countryside, National

¹ The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. Available from:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2010/490/contents/made>

² The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) Regulations 2012. Available from:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/1927/contents/made>

³ The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Available from:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69/contents>

Parks, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and public rights of way as well as preventing the establishment of invasive non-native species that may be detrimental to native wildlife.

Table A1.1: Key Schedules of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

Schedule	Protected Species
Schedule 1 Part 1	Protects listed birds through special penalties at all times.
Schedule 1 Part 2	Protects listed birds through special penalties during the close season.
Schedule 5 Section 9.1 (killing/injuring)	Protects listed animals from intentional killing or injuring.
Schedule 5 Section 9.1 (taking)	Protects listed animals from taking.
Schedule 5 Section 9.2	Protects listed animals from being possessed or controlled (live or dead).
Schedule 5 Section 9.4a	Protects listed animals from intentional damage or destruction to any structure or place used for shelter or protection.
Schedule 5 Section 9.4b	Protects listed animals from intentional disturbance while occupying a structure or place used for shelter or protection.
Schedule 5 Section 9.5a	Protects listed animals from being sold, offered for sale or being held or transported for sale either live or dead, whole or part.
Schedule 5 Section 9.5b	Protects listed animals from being published or advertised as being for sale.
Schedule 8	Protects listed plants from: intentional picking, uprooting or destruction (Section 13 1a); selling, offering for sale, possessing or transporting for the purpose of sale (live or dead, part or derivative) (Section 13 2a); advertising (any of these) for buying or selling (Section 13 2b).
Schedule 9	Prohibits the release of species listed in the Schedule into the wild.

Further information on legally protected species, designated wildlife sites and invasive non-native species is provided in the relevant sub-sections of this Appendix.

Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000

Many of the provisions of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000⁴ have been incorporated as amendments into the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) and some provisions have now been superseded by later legislation such as The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006).

The most relevant changes provided by the CRoW Act include the added protection given to SSSIs and other important sites for nature conservation. Importantly, under the Act it became a criminal offence to "recklessly disturb" Schedule 1 nesting birds and species protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act. It also enabled heavier penalties on conviction of wildlife offences.

⁴ The Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000. Available from: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/37/contents>

The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006

The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006⁵ was intended to raise the profile of biodiversity amongst all public authorities (including local authorities, and statutory undertakers) and to make biodiversity an integral part of policy and decision-making processes. The NERC Act also improved wildlife protection by amending the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Section 40 (S40) of the Act places a 'Biodiversity Duty' on all public bodies to have regard to the conservation of biodiversity when carrying out their normal functions. This includes giving consideration to the restoration and enhancement of species and habitats.

Section 41 (S41) of the Act requires the Secretary of State to publish a list of habitats and species which are of Principal Importance for the conservation of biodiversity in England⁶. Public authorities have a responsibility to give specific consideration to the S41 list when exercising their normal functions. For planning authorities, consideration for Species and Habitats of Principal Importance will be exercised through the planning and development control processes. Further information on species and habitats of Principal Importance is provided in the relevant sub-section of this Appendix.

PLANNING POLICY & GUIDANCE

Listed below is the main planning policy and government guidance that relates to the conservation of nature and development at all levels of government.

National Level

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

The National Planning Policy Framework⁷ sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied in local-level policy and decision making. The NPPF has a clear "presumption in favour of sustainable development" (paragraph 14), with a requirement to consider its economic, social and environmental dimensions. This does not apply where development requiring Appropriate Assessment under the Habitats Directive is being considered, planned or determined (paragraph 119).

Section 11 of the NPPF provides guidance on conserving and enhancing the natural environment through the planning system and replaces the preceding Planning Policy Statement 9 (PPS9): Biodiversity and Geological Conservation. It specifies that when determining planning applications, local planning authorities should aim to conserve and enhance biodiversity by applying the following principles:

⁵ The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. Available from: www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/contents

⁶ The S40 list replaces the previously prepared list of habitats and species of Principal Importance for the conservation of biological diversity in England that was published under Section 74 (2) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

⁷ DCLG (2012). *National Planning Policy Framework*. Available from: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf

- if significant harm resulting from a development cannot be avoided, adequately mitigated or (as a last resort) compensated for, then planning permission should be refused;
- development proposals where the primary objective is to conserve and enhance biodiversity should be permitted;
- opportunities to incorporate biodiversity in and around developments should be encouraged.

Government Circular 06/05: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation

The Government produced Circular 06/05⁸ to provide guidance on the application of the law to the conservation of nature. Although the document is in the process of being updated, Paragraphs 98 and 99 remain relevant as they and set out the following principles and obligations:

- The presence of protected species is a material consideration when determining a development proposal;
- Local authorities should consult with Natural England before granting permission, and consider imposing planning conditions or obligations to secure the long-term protection of the species;
- The presence or otherwise of protected species, and the extent to which they may be affected by the proposed development, must be established before permission is granted;
- Given the delay and cost that may be involved, developers should not be required to undertake surveys for protected species unless there is a reasonable likelihood of the species being present and affected by the development.

Good Practice & Standards

DCLG Planning Practice Guidance

Revised and updated Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)⁹ was launched by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) as a web-based tool in March 2014 to accompany the National Planning Policy Framework. The webpages are set out in an accessible Q&A format. The PPG consolidates and supersedes existing guidance on a range of planning-related topics, clarifies some of the statements made in the NPPF, and provides links to relevant legislation and other sources of advice.

The Guidance outlines a number of important principles in relation to nature conservation and biodiversity, including the need to integrate biodiversity into all stages of the planning process and to consider opportunities to enhance biodiversity and contribute to the Government's commitments and targets set out in *Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services* (see below). It also lists a number of issues that should be considered in relation to biodiversity, including local biodiversity plans and strategies, Section 41 species and habitats, the need for

⁸ ODPM (2005). *Circular 06/05: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation - Statutory Obligations and Their Impact Within the Planning System*. Available from:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/circularbiodiversity>

⁹ DCLG (2014). *Planning Practice Guidance*. Available from: <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/>

ecological surveys, local ecological networks, and statutory obligations with regard to internationally and nationally designated sites – all of which are discussed throughout this Appendix.

The guidance also requires that “an ecological survey will be necessary in advance of a planning application if the type and location of development are such that the impact on biodiversity may be significant and existing information is lacking or inadequate” and recommends that “local planning authorities should only require ecological surveys where clearly justified, for example if they consider there is a reasonable likelihood of a protected species being present and affected by development.”

Other guidance

In addition to the Planning Practice Guidance, various other forms of guidance and standards are available to help manage biodiversity through the development process. Of particular note is *British Standard BS42020:2013 Biodiversity – Code of practice for planning and development*,¹⁰ published in August 2013, which replaces *Planning to Halt the Loss of Biodiversity (PAS 2010): Biodiversity conservation standards for planning in the United Kingdom*.

This document is designed to complement the National Planning Policy Framework and is aimed at organisations concerned with ecological issues throughout the planning process, including local authorities, developers, planners and ecological consultants. It sets out clear, step-by-step recommendations on how to incorporate biodiversity considerations at all stages of the planning process, with a focus on the provision of consistent, high quality and appropriate ecological information, effective decision making, and high standards of professional conduct and competence.

Local Level

The London Plan¹¹ and adopted London Borough of Hillingdon Local Plan¹² (2012) sets out the overarching objectives and planning policy for the Borough. Those of relevance to ecology are described below.

The London Plan includes a specific policy on biodiversity and access to nature, **Policy 7.19**. This states the following considerations with regards to planning decisions:

Development proposals should:

- “*wherever possible, make a positive contribution to the protection, enhancement, creation and management of biodiversity*”;
- “*prioritise assisting in achieving targets in biodiversity action plans (BAPs)...and/or improve access to nature in areas deficient in accessible wildlife site*”;

Policy EM7 of London Borough of Hillingdon’s Local Plan sets out how Hillingdon’s biodiversity and geological conservation will be preserved and enhanced with particular attention given to:

¹⁰ The British Standards Institution (2013). BS42020:2013 Biodiversity – Code of practice for planning and development. Available from: <http://shop.bsigroup.com/ProductDetail/?pid=00000000030258704>

¹¹ <https://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/planning/london-plan>

¹² <http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/23501>

- “the protection and enhancement of populations of protected species as well as priority species and habitats identified within the UK, London and the Hillingdon Biodiversity Action Plan”;
- “appropriate contributions from developers to help enhance Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in close proximity to development and to deliver/assist in the delivery of actions within the Biodiversity Action Plan”;
- “the provision of biodiversity improvements from all development, where feasible”;
- “the provision of green roofs and living walls which contribute to biodiversity and help tackle climate change”;
- “the use of sustainable drainage systems that promote ecological connectivity and natural habitats”.

BIODIVERSITY PLANS AND STRATEGIES

The NERC Act 2006 places a duty on local authorities to have due regard to biodiversity when exercising their normal functions, and the NPPF requires planning policies to “promote the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species populations, linked to national and local targets” (paragraph 117). These targets are set out in a range of biodiversity plans and strategies from the international through to the district level. An overview of the key biodiversity plans and strategies in the UK, and their implications for development, are set out below.

National level

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan 2007 (UK BAP) has been superseded by the *UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework*¹³ and individual national biodiversity strategies. The UK framework sets out the overarching vision, strategic goals and priority activities for the UK’s work towards international biodiversity targets (known as the ‘Aichi Targets’), as agreed by 192 parties at the UN Convention on Biological Diversity in 2010. The Framework’s overall vision is that “by 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people.”

In England, *Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England’s wildlife and ecosystem services*¹⁴ is the national biodiversity strategy, which has the stated mission “(...)to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.” In order to focus activity and assess performance in achieving this mission, Biodiversity 2020 sets objectives relating to terrestrial and marine habitats and ecosystems, species and people. These include:

¹³ JNCC and Defra (on behalf of the Four Countries’ Biodiversity Group) (2012). *The UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework*. Available from: http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/UK_Post2010_Bio-Fwork.pdf

¹⁴ DEFRA (2011). *Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England’s wildlife and ecosystem services*. Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/biodiversity-2020-a-strategy-for-england-s-wildlife-and-ecosystem-services>

- Establishing coherent and resilient ecological networks, described as “a network of high quality sites, protected by buffer zones, and connected by wildlife corridors and smaller, but still wildlife-rich, ‘stepping-stone’ sites”;
- Taking targeted action for the recovery of priority species whose conservation is not delivered through wider habitat-based and ecosystem measures ;
- Establishing Nature Improvement Areas and Marine Protected Areas;
- Bringing more SSSIs into favourable condition;
- Reducing environmental pressures by working with sectors such as agriculture, forestry, planning and development.

A network of 48 Local Nature Partnerships have been set up across England to help deliver these objectives.

Note that as these changes are still relatively new, some local plans and government guidance documents/circulars still refer to the UK BAP and ‘UK BAP priority habitats and species’. These habitats and species are listed under Section 41 of the NERC Act, and **remain a material consideration in the planning process**. They are now described as ‘Species/Habitats of Principal Importance’, though they are also commonly referred to as ‘Section 41 Species/Habitats’ or simply ‘Priority Species/Habitats’. Further guidance is given in the relevant sections below.

Local level

Despite the changes to national level biodiversity policy described above, county and district level BAPs still apply. The **London Biodiversity Action Plan**¹⁵ consists of targets for maintaining, restoring and creating priority habitats and protecting priority species.

Delivering Biodiversity Opportunities

Where practicable, opportunities should also be sought to achieve a **net gain** (i.e. enhancement) of biodiversity. Support for biodiversity enhancement is provided in the Public Authority ‘Biodiversity Duty’ under the NERC Act 2006 and in the key principles of the NPPF, as described above.

Enhancement projects may not just benefit biodiversity. There are many functional benefits to be won from strategically planned green infrastructure projects such as semi-natural urban green spaces, sustainable urban drainage schemes (SUDS) and green roofs. Planning conditions and obligations are increasingly being used to mandate biodiversity enhancement on or off a development site, either through design or through financial support.

Many ideas for incorporating ecological enhancement into planning and development can be found in the biodiversity action plans and/or strategies relevant to the policy or development area, or through initiatives led by the Local Nature Partnership. At the national level, twelve Nature Improvement Areas were set up in 2012 in order to deliver landscape-scale conservation objectives, and many regions and counties have also identified and mapped ‘Biodiversity

¹⁵ <http://www.lbp.org.uk/londonap.html>

Opportunity Areas', 'Nature Maps' or 'Strategic Nature Areas' where conservation action such as habitat creation and restoration will deliver the greatest benefits for biodiversity.

Other sources of ideas and opportunities include schemes led by conservation NGOs, such as the Wildlife Trusts' 'Living Landscapes' and the RSPB's 'Futurescapes', which are working in partnership with landowners and local communities across the country to restore ecosystems and ecological networks.

SPECIES PROTECTION

Legally Protected Species

Bats are protected by law in England. It is essential to determine the presence or likely absence of legally protected species and the extent to which they may be affected by proposed development. This can best be achieved by undertaking surveys early in the planning process. Mitigation measures are required to minimise disturbance to protected species and may necessitate a licence. Natural England offers further detailed advice which can be applied to planning applications that affect protected species¹⁶.

Mammals

All wild mammals are protected against cruelty under the Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996, which makes it an offence to mutilate, kick, beat, nail or otherwise impale, stab, burn, stone, crush, drown, drag or asphyxiate any wild mammal with intent to inflict unnecessary suffering.

Bats are protected further by law in England:

There are 18 species of bat in the UK, seven of which are Species of Principal Importance in England. All bats and bat roosts are protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Bats are also a European Protected Species protected under the Habitat Regulations 2010 (as amended). It is an offence to:

- Intentionally or deliberately kill, injure or capture bats;
- Intentionally, deliberately or recklessly disturb bats in such a way as to be likely to significantly affect the ability of any significant group of bats to survive, breed, or rear or nurture their young or the local distribution of or abundance of a species of bat;
- Intentionally, or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct any place used for shelter or protection (i.e. bat roosts) or intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat whilst it is occupying such a place;
- Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of a bat; and
- Possess, sell or transport a bat, or anything derived from it.

¹⁶ Natural England. 2011. *Standing Advice for Protected Species*. Available from: <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/planningtransportlocalgov/spatialplanning/standingadvice/default.aspx>

Development proposals affecting bats or their roosts require a European Protected Species licence from Natural England.

Licences for Development

Licences are required to permit activities prohibited under wildlife legislation, namely the disturbance or capture of protected species or damage to their habitats. Natural England is the licensing authority in England. Licences are only issued for certain purposes, which are set out in the law, and only where there is a valid justification. The licences most relevant to development scenarios are discussed below.

European Protected Species Licences

A European Protected Species Licence is required from Natural England to undertake any development that is reasonably likely to result in an offence in respect of a European Protected Species protected under Schedule 2 of the Habitat Regulations 2010 (as amended); including *inter alia* all species of bats, Dormouse, Great Crested Newt and Otter. Natural England must be satisfied that the following three tests are satisfied before it will issue a licence covering a European Protected Species:

1. The proposal is necessary to preserve public health or public safety, or other imperative reasons of overriding public interest including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment;
2. There is no satisfactory alternative; and
3. The proposal will have no detrimental effect to the maintenance of the population of the species concerned at a favourable conservation status in their natural range.

Species of Principal Importance in England

943 species have been identified as being of Principal Importance in England for the conservation of biodiversity under Section 41 (S41) of the NERC Act 2006. This list of species includes species found in England which have been identified as requiring action under the now superseded UK Biodiversity Action Plan 2007 (plus the Hen Harrier¹⁷). While these species may not be legally protected, there is a clear responsibility on planning authorities to further their conservation. These species can be a material consideration in development control decisions and so developers are advised to take reasonable measures to avoid or mitigate impacts to prevent the net loss of these species and habitats and to enhance them where possible. Additional guidance to developers is typically provided in level planning policies.

Appendix 2

Summary of Bat Building Inspection Methodology

DESK STUDY METHODOLOGY

A desk study was carried out in order to gather and refer to existing biodiversity and contextual information with respect to the Zone of Influence and the wider area. This involved interrogation of internet resources, including the Multi-agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC), aerial photos, current Ordnance Survey maps and the Old Maps online database. Reference was also made to local planning policies, strategies and initiatives relating to biodiversity as detailed in **Appendix 1**.

Greenspace Information for Greater London was commissioned to provide information from their database to provide existing data records with full coverage of the site. Statutory site designations for nature conservation and protected species records were identified within a 5km radius, all other records were obtained for 2km radius from the centre of the site.

FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

The field surveys were completed by John Atkinson and Josh Sowden on 29th June 2015. The predicted zone of influence in relation to proposed renovation proposals for the school was walked and all notable features of potential value for, and any evidence of, roosting bats was recorded. All buildings and their immediate surrounds (where access was permitted) were inspected including any accessible internal roof voids in accordance with the methods described below.

Bats

Bats use buildings and trees for roosting and breeding and, where present, a preliminary assessment of the potential for these features to support bats was undertaken during the survey in accordance with categories set out within the Bat Conservation Trust's Bat Surveys Good Practice Guidelines (2012). A summary of the methodology used to assess bat roosting potential is given below.

Internal and External Building Inspection for Bats

The buildings were inspected externally with binoculars and a Clulite torch, where required. Internal areas of the buildings (voids) were inspected, where possible.

Potential roosting areas may include gaps beneath roof or hanging tiles, in soffits, or beneath the end of ridge tiles, but also under the edge of felt on flat roofs. Features considered during the external inspection, to assess the potential of a building to support a bat roost, are listed below in **Table A2.1**.

Table A2.1: External features

Lower Potential	Higher Potential
Modern construction with few gaps Prefabricated with steel/ sheet materials Flat roof Roof shaded from sun	Pre/ early 20 th Century construction Pitched roof Tiled roof with natural gaps Hanging tiles or wooden cladding Cellar (hibernation potential) Bat evidence (droppings/staining etc)

Preliminary evidence was obtained through noting any staining around potential roost entrances, and looking for bat droppings, for example on window sills. A preliminary evaluation was also undertaken of potential bat foraging habitat in the area, including woodland, pasture, hedges and watercourses.

The internal survey noted all potential roosting opportunities for bats which can be factored into assessing the potential of the building to support roosting bats and the likely value of any such roost. If bats/bat droppings are found, the building is a confirmed roost and it will be necessary to give the building a potential value to bats.

In addition to the features described above, the immediate surroundings of a building, which will influence the potential of a building to support roosting bats, were investigated. **Table A2.2** below describes location factors that may affect a building's potential to support roosting bats.

Table A2.2: Location factors

Lower Potential	Higher Potential
Urban setting with few foraging areas Industrial sites Increased lighting	Rural Setting Close to woodland and/ or water Surrounded by good connective habitat

Assigning potential and value

Information from the external and internal inspection surveys was used to categorise a building as having negligible, low, medium or high potential to support roosting bats, and the likely value of any such roost. This was then used to contribute to an assessment of the overall potential value of the site for bats.

Foraging habitat and commuting corridors

In addition to the various features described above, other features that may be of value to bats include foraging habitat and commuting corridors. These were noted during the External Bat Inspections. **Table A2.3** outlines foraging and commuting features and their potential value to bats.

Table A2.3: Foraging and commuting features in terms of their potential value to bats

Lower potential to be of value	Higher potential to be of value
Arable field Hardstanding Defunct species poor hedgerows Isolated trees	Grazed pasture Ancient woodland Ponds with diverse marginal vegetation Wet ditches Species rich dense intact hedgerows

Overall Assessment and Assigning Value

In order to conclude whether further survey is required and if so, to design a suitable survey strategy, the overall **Potential Value** to bats is assessed, considering all of the features likely to be of value to bats (see above), and all roost features present are assigned a probability of being used by bats.

The value of a development site for bats will depend on a variety of factors (as shown in **Figure A2.1** below). Bats are nomadic and require a variety of roosts in addition to foraging areas and commuting routes.

Figure A2.1: Factors affecting the value of a site for bats

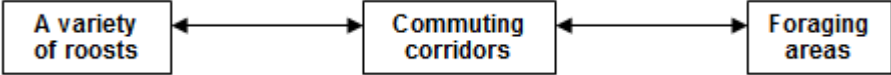


Table A2.4 below provides an example of the ‘value continuum’ (adapted from BCT *Good Practice Guidelines*, **Table 4.2**).

Table A2.4: How habitat features influence the potential value to bats

Potential Value	Site features
<p>LOW</p> <p>HIGH</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No features likely to be used by bats (for roosting foraging or commuting). - Small number of potential roost sites unlikely to support high numbers, or rarer bat species. No maternity or hibernation potential. - Isolated site with habitats that could be used by small numbers of foraging bats. - Several potential roost sites in buildings, trees or other structures. - Habitat likely to be used by foraging bats - Site connected to the wider landscape by linear features and could be used by commuting bats. - High quality foraging habitat (broadleaved woodland, water courses etc). - High potential roost features with the potential to support maternity roosts and/or rarer species of bat.

A ground level inspection of all trees on site, (highlighted to have potential value for roosting bats in the ecological appraisal survey), was undertaken taking note of any features with potential al value for roosting bats including; woodpecker holes, splits in branches and peeling bark. Roost features on trees and their rated value for roosting bats can be found in **Table A2.5** below.