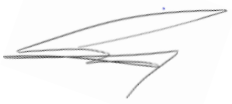
Emergence Survey Report – Bats

Site Location	69 Copse Wood Way, Northwood, HA6 2TZ
Document reference	CE3012-01
Date of survey	Emergence Survey – 9th August 2022 Emergence Survey – 23rd August 2022 Emergence Survey – 9th September 2022
Report by	Garry Smith – Senior Ecologist Signature:  Tel: 07792064673 Email: info@chaseecology.co.uk

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1.0 Introduction

Brief

This report will present the findings of an emergence survey of the named site on the below dates;

Emergence Survey – 9th August 2022

Emergence Survey – 23rd August 2022

Emergence Survey – 9th September 2022

2.0 Executive Summary

Chase Ecology undertook an emergence survey at the named site to assess the building for bats following a preliminary roost assessment which deemed the structure to offer value for roosting.

Survey Methodology	All emergence surveys were conducted during the optimal recommended survey times following best practice guidelines. All surveys were carried out during optimal weather conditions. Each elevation of the structure which offers value to bats was viewed during the survey visit with no limitations.
Results of emergence surveys	Following the emergence survey of the structure, it has been identified that bats are using the building for daytime roosting and the following roosts were identified; • Roost 1 – Common Pipistrelle (1 x max count) Main roof coverings, South elevation next to chimney. • Roost 2 – Common Pipistrelle (1 x max count) Main roof coverings, West facing elevation of central gable. In addition to the above recorded bat roosts, several other bats were observed to be using the site for both feeding and commuting. See Section 5: Results of Phase 2 Activity Surveys
Requirements for Additional Survey	No further survey requirements have been identified during the emergence surveys conducted to date. See Appendix 1: Mitigation, Protection & Enhancement.
Predicted Impacts of Development on Bats	Low impacts will be offered to bats if all guidance & recommendations within appendix one for mitigation, protection and enhancement are implemented during all stages of development. See Appendix 1: Mitigation, Protection & Enhancement.
Licensing Requirements for Bats	A Protected species mitigation licence for bats will be required and sort prior to any disturbance to both bats and their roosts which have been identified and recorded within this report.

	The following bat roosts recorded will need to be mitigated under licence from Natural England; • Roost 1 – Common Pipistrelle (1 x max count) Main roof coverings, South elevation next to chimney. • Roost 2 – Common Pipistrelle (1 x max count) Main roof coverings, West facing elevation of central gable.
Biodiversity Net Gain	See Appendix 2: Biodiversity Net Gain

3.0 Legislation

1.1.1 All British bats are classed as European Protected Species and therefore receive protection under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, making it an offence to:

- Deliberately kill, injure or capture a bat;
- Deliberately disturb bats;
- Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place

1.1.2 In addition, all British bats are also listed under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) which contains further provisions making it an offence to intentionally or recklessly Obstruct access to any structure or place which any bat uses for shelter or protection; or Disturb any bat while occupying a structure or place which it uses

1.1.3 If proposed development work is likely to destroy or disturb bats or their roosts, then a licence will need to be obtained from Natural England, which would be subject to appropriate measures to safeguard bats.

1.1.4 In the UK, the provisions of the Birds Directive are implemented through the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended). All wild birds, their nests and eggs are protected it an offence to: • kill, injure, or take any wild bird; • take, damage or destroy the nest of any such bird whilst it is in use or being built; or • take or destroying an egg of any such wild bird.

1.1.5 Special protection against disturbance during the breeding season is also afforded to those species listed on Schedule 1 of the Act.

4.0 METHODOLOGY

4.1 All reporting undertaken by Mr Garry Smith who is an experienced licensed bat ecologist in England [Class 2 registration 2017-28032-CLS-CLS] with over 9 years' experience practical of professional ecological surveys.

4.2 It is recommended that emergence surveys should be carried out within the optimal survey season from May to August, April & September are also useful times if weather conditions remain optimal, in line with the Good Practice Guidelines, 3rd edition, Bat Conservation Trust

4.3 Surveys were conducted following "The Bat Workers Manual "(JNCC 2004), "The Bat Mitigation Guidelines" (EN 2004) and the Bat Conservation Trust 'Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines' (2016) recommendations.

4.4 All elevations of the structure were visible throughout the survey to capture any bats emerging from within or into the structure throughout the duration of the survey.

5.0 Results of Phase 2 Activity Surveys

Date	9th August 2022

Sunset/ Sunrise	Start Time	Finish Time	Temperature Start	Temperature End	Wind Beaufort Scale	Cloud Cover
20:36	20:21	22:15	23	21	2	10%

	Name	Position	Detector
Lead Surveyor	Carla de Sousa	Back garden SE facing of the elevation	EMT PRO
Assistant Surveyor	Elena Vasileva	Back garden NE facing of the elevation	WALKAOUT
Assistant Surveyor	Toby Bowman	Front W facing of the elevation	EMT PRO

Emergence/Re-Entry Data

No bats recorded to have emerged from the property during the survey times recorded.

Activity from Bats during survey

Species	Activity
Common Pipistrelle	4 x commuting passes through rear areas of the site during early stages of the survey. 1 x commuting pass, rear to front during early stages of the survey. 1 x brief foraging during late stages of the survey, no visual.
Soprano Pipistrelle	2 x commuting passes during mid stages of the survey, no visual.

Date	23rd August 2022					
Sunset/ Sunrise	Start Time	Finish Time	Temperature Start	End	Wind Beaufort Scale	Cloud Cover
20:08	19:50	21:45	23	21	3	5%

Emergence/Re-Entry Data

Point	Time	Species	Activity
One	20:21	2CP	1 x emerged from the main roof coverings near the chimney
One	20:36	CP	1 x emerged from the right side of the gable at the front of the elevation

Activity from Bats during survey

Species	Activity
CP	1 x foraging (following emergence from point 2) for up to 20 minutes through rear garden and neighbouring habitats. 1 x commuting pass right to left through rear garden spaces during mid stages of the survey. 2 x commuting passes/social calls during late stages of the survey, no visual.
Brown Long-eared	2 x brief foraging during late stages of the survey, no visual.

Any other information including photographs of emergence points	Point One 

	Point Two 

Date	9th September 2022

Sunset/ Sunrise	Start Time	Finish Time	Temperature Start	Temperature End	Wind Beaufort Scale	Cloud Cover
06:26	04:50	06:40	15	14	2	40%

	Name	Position	Detector
Lead Surveyor	Carla de Sousa	Back garden SE facing of the elevation	EMT PRO
Assistant Surveyor	Elena Vasileva	Back garden NE facing of the elevation	WALKAOUT
Assistant Surveyor	Toby Bowman	Front W facing of the elevation	EMT PRO

Emergence/Re-Entry Data

No bats recorded to have re-entered the property during the survey times recorded.

Activity from Bats during survey

Species	Activity
Soprano Pipistrelle	1 x commuting passes during mid stages of the survey, no visual.
Common Pipistrelle	1 x commuting pass front to rear during mid stages of the survey. 1 x brief foraging during mid stages of the survey, no visual.

6.0 Ecological Experience

Carla Maria Ferreira de Sousa
Carla has worked as a seasonal survey assistant since 2017 and holds Class Licence level 2 for Bats registration number: 2020-46427-CLS-CLS.
She has worked on both residential and large commercial sites and has the ability to lead and manage others during the surveys on site.
She holds a clear understanding of UK protected species and legislation & guidance for both survey and mitigation.

Elena Vasileva
Elena joined the Chase Ecology team in 2022 as a seasonal survey assistant.
She has demonstrated a clear understanding of survey methodology and offers a good knowledge of best practice survey guidelines.
She has been supporting on both residential and commercial sites including emergence surveys for bats.

Toby Bowman – Toby has worked within the ecology sector since 2017 and has supported Chase Ecology since 2021 on both private and commercial bat survey projects.
Toby has a clear understanding of following and maintaining best practice guidelines and correct use of survey technologies and supporting other ecologist/survey assistance as a team leader.
Toby holds a firm knowledge for report writing and design/implementation of protection and enhancement features for bats.

7.0 References

Bat Conservation Trust. 2012. Bats and Buildings. Bats and the Built Environment Series. London. Bat Conservation Trust. 2018.

http://www.bats.org.uk/pages/bat_boxes.html (Accessed July 2021).

Bat Conservation Trust. 2018.

Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK.

Bats and the Built Environment Series. London. Collins, J. (ed). 2016.

Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines 3rd Edition.

Bat Conservation Trust. Multi-Agency Geographical Information for the Countryside web http://magic.defra.gov.uk Mitchell-Jones, A.J. 2004 Bat mitigation guidelines.

English Nature, Peterborough. Mitchell-Jones, A.J. and McLeish, A.P. 1999 (revised 2004).

The Bat Workers Manual. Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough. Stone, E.L. 2013. Bats and Lighting: Overview of Current Evidence and Mitigation Guidance.

Appendix 1: Mitigation, Enhancement & Protection

This document must be available to all involved in the planned development. All contractors must aware of the potential of protected & priority species being found on site and care should be taken during works to avoid harm (including during any tree works), if protected species are found then all work should cease and an ecologist should be consulted immediately.

Mitigation

During the three emergence surveys a total of two individual daytime bat roosts were identified which will suffer total loss during the proposed development works;

Roost 1 – Common Pipistrelle (1 x max count) Main roof coverings, South elevation next to chimney.
Roost 2 – Common Pipistrelle (1 x max count) Main roof coverings, West facing elevation of central gable.

Prior to any development works which would offer disturbance to the two roost locations within the main roof coverings a Protected Species Mitigation Licence will need to be obtained from Natural England as below;

- Mitigation License to be applied and granted prior to any disturbance works to both bat roosts which have been identified within this report.

- Mitigation methods agreed with contractors prior to any development works on site.

- During mitigation, a licenced and experienced bat worker will be on site to co-ordinate the mitigation works and to supervise a hand strip of all roost locations. During this time, any roosting bats located will be moved to a suitable bat box within the site.

- Two bat boxes will be installed within the site and remain as a permanent fixture. This will be two small crevice style boxes which will also offer additional enhancement to void dwelling species of bats.

- On completion of all mitigation works the licenced ecologist will complete all relevant return documentation to Natural England and conduct any post development checks where appropriate.

- In addition to the agreed mitigation requirements, a suitable level of biodiversity net gain has been agreed and will be implemented during the development works.

Bat box location within the site

<u>Protection measures to be implemented during development</u>

<u>Lighting</u>

It is recommended that during the development process the levels of lighting such as security floodlighting and lighting around working platforms if any should be limited to reduce the level of disturbance caused to bats which have been recorded locally.

Disturbance caused by high power lighting can cause disturbance to common commuting and foraging areas currently used by bats.

It is advised that all works should be carried out during the hours of daylight to further reduce the levels of disturbance caused to bats and other nocturnal wildlife in the surrounding environment.

<u>Nesting Birds</u>

Although no nesting activities were demonstrated within the building where development will take place consideration and protection must be implemented during March to September to prevent disturbance.

If nesting birds are identified within the building during this time which may face disturbance from any planned works the client should seek advice from an experienced ecologist.

Protection of Wildlife During the development

All excavations if any should be closed where possible during the hours of darkness to prevent entrapment of wildlife such as mammals which may use the site during the hours of darkness for commuting & foraging.

For excavations which require to be left open a shallow slope should be in place to aid escape.

All external pipe's & services must be capped during development/overnight to prevent animals entering/entrapment.

The site should remain is a tidy fashion with waste materials removed daily to prevent any use from wildlife as an au natural refugia.

Appendix 2: Biodiversity Net Gain

The below biodiversity net gain features have been agreed and will be incorporated within the build/site during the development process and will be maintained by the land owner for no less than ten years.

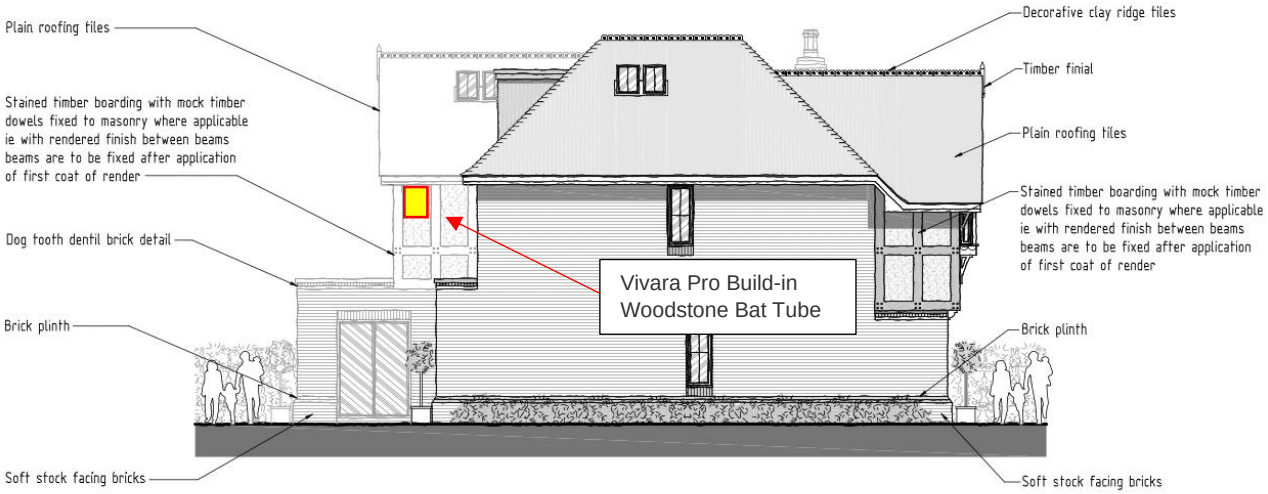
It is the land owners responsibility to contact an ecologist if any of the features below for protected species suffer damage/disturbance during this time.

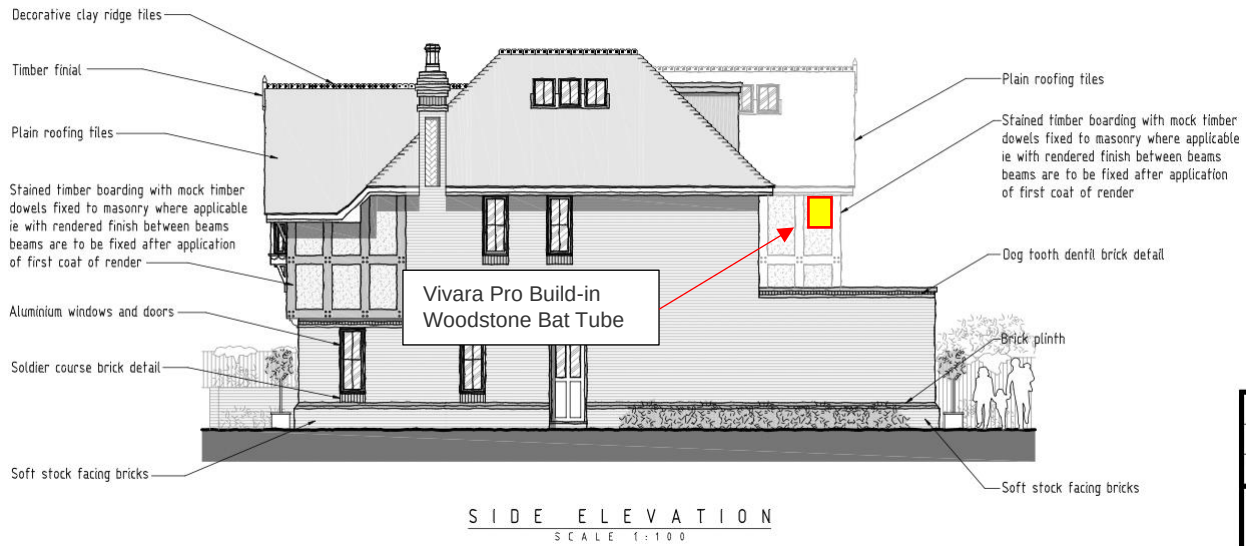
As bats are a UK protected species the land owner must be aware that they are not permitted to disturb both the recorded features of bats themselves. This must be conducted by a licenced bat worker only.

<u>Bats</u>

To offer a suitable level of roost re-creation and net gain, a total of two integrated bat boxes will be installed within the new development. This will be the Vivara Pro Build-in Woodstone Bat Tube or similar which offer a maintenance free roosting feature and would be integrated within the new rear section of the development behind the render coverings.

This will offer both a North & South facing roosting feature for yearly round roosting value.





Nesting Birds

To offer a suitable level of biodiversity net gain to nesting birds, two surface mounted Vivara Pro WoodStone Swift Nest Box will be installed below the eaves to the North facing elevation.

Swift numbers are declining, in part because of the loss of nesting sites. Installing a swift box is a great way to help these birds and to ensure their continued presence in our surroundings.