Biodiversity Management Plan
Land at Crease Drove
Crowland
Lincolnshire

Issued to:
Andrew Riley
Ashwood Homes
1 Goodison Road
Lincs Gateway Business Park
Spalding
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PE12 6FY

MARCH 2020

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BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT PLAN
LAND AT CREASE DROVE, CROWLAND, LINCOLNSHIRE

Report to:	Andrew Riley Ashwood Homes 1 Goodison Road Lincs Gateway Business Park Spalding Lincolnshire PE12 6FY	
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BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT PLAN
LAND AT CREASE DROVE, CROWLAND, LINCOLNSHIRE

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BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT PLAN
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1 INTRODUCTION

Full planning permission has been granted for the erection of 108 dwellings with associated garaging, roads and sewers on an area of land at Crease Drove, Crowland in Lincolnshire – South Holland District Council planning reference H02-0189-19.

Full planning permission was given for this development subject to Condition 14 which states that:

'Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted, details of a scheme for the provision of bird and bat boxes to be installed on dwellings within the site shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved scheme shall be fully implemented prior to the completion of the development hereby approved, and shall thereafter be retained.

Reason: To enhance the potential for the site to be used by species such as roosting bats and nesting birds. This Condition is imposed in accordance with Section 15 of the National Planning Policy Framework, 2019.'

This document provides a Biodiversity Management Plan which aims to mitigate the ecological impact of the proposed development and improve the ecological value of the site for bats and birds, which will meet the requirements for Condition 11 of the planning permission notice, as well as including provisions for hedgehog on site providing advice on how to improve the site for invertebrates, in order to enhance biodiversity on site. This will help to fulfil the Local Planning Authority's (LPA) obligations to enhance biodiversity and provide some 'ecological gain' under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006.

2 SCOPE OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

This Management Plan refers to the area of land off Crease Drove, Crowland in Lincolnshire – central grid reference TF23599 09695. The site is described in detail in the ecology and protected species survey report from 2016 (Barker, 2016).

The following report provides a management plan for the area with a work programme. It is intended to cover a five-year period after which it will be necessary to re-survey the site and update the plan.

3 EVALUATION AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Ideal Management Objectives and Rationale

The ideal management objectives for the site are as follows:

1. Increase roosting opportunities for bat species (particularly pipistrelle species *Pipistrellus spp*.)
2. Increase opportunities for hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus*
3. Increase nesting opportunities for common bird species (including house sparrow *Passer domesticus* and swift *Apus apus*)
4. Increase habitat diversity for invertebrate species
5. Protect statutorily protected species (particularly bats and common birds)
6. Review the management plan after five years

3.2 Rationale for Management Objectives

3.2.1 Objective 1: Increase roosting opportunities for bat species

Bat populations in the UK have experienced declines in recent years, mainly as a result of roost destruction and loss and fragmentation of foraging habitat. It is considered that provision for bats within the fabric of the new dwellings will improve the site for roosting bats. This was suggested in the original ecological report, and forms part of Condition 14 of the planning permission notice.

3.2.2 Objective 2: Increase opportunities for hedgehog

Hedgehog populations have declined by a third in the last 10 years. Gardens and green spaces in urban areas can support high densities of hedgehogs, however habitat fragmentation is thought to be a significant contributor to their decline. Hedgehog are a Species of Principle Importance in England, as listed under Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006. Simple solutions within new housing developments can improve these sites for this species.

3.2.3 Objective 3: Increase nesting opportunities for common bird species (including house sparrow and swift)

House sparrow is included on the Red List under the criteria set out in Birds of Conservation Concern 4 (Eaton *et al*., 2015), as their population has suffered severe declines across the UK

over the last 40 years. The provision of sparrow terrace boxes within the new development is recommended.

There has been a marked decrease in the swift population in recent years, this is thought mainly to be due to losses in the wintering grounds but habitat loss in the breeding areas is also considered to contribute. Although not on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) it has been placed on the amber list of Birds of Conservation Concern 4 (Eaton *et al*., 2015). It would be advantageous therefore to provide provision for nesting swifts within the new development.

It would also be advantageous to install a number of general-purpose bird nesting boxes within the new development. The inclusion of bird boxes was recommended in the original ecological report, and forms part of Condition 14 of the planning permission notice.

3.2.4 Objective 4: Increase habitat diversity for invertebrate species

The habitats within the development could be improved to create opportunities for a broad range of invertebrate species. Many of the other species found on site forage on invertebrate prey and increasing opportunities for insects on site will improve the overall value of the site for these species. Appropriate native planting and landscaping can contribute to improving invertebrate diversity and density and was suggested within the original ecological report. This will also help to enhance biodiversity and provide ‘ecological gain’ in line with LPA obligations.

3.2.5 Objective 5: Protect statutorily protected species (particularly bats and common birds)

There is some limited potential for nesting by common birds within the environs of the site, and it is considered likely that limited numbers of foraging and commuting bats utilise the area. To ensure best practice and complete legal compliance, some recommendations and prescriptions for protection of species during development of the area and afterwards are provided.

3.2.6 Objective 6: Review the management plan after five years

During the final year of the term of this plan a site visit by an ecologist will be required in order to assess whether the desired effects have been obtained, and the results of this assessment should be used to direct a new plan if required.

4 MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTIONS

These prescriptions should be read in conjunction with accompanying site plans and drawings. In all cases, photographic evidence of the management prescriptions should be forwarded to the LPA as the features are installed/erected on the site.

4.1 Provision for bats

1. Install twelve integrated Habibat bat roost units within the fabric of the new buildings. This will maximise opportunities for bat species in the local area. The bat roost units should be built into the buildings on the north or south elevations, avoiding installing the roost units above windows and doors. Suitable locations for the roost units are identified in Figure 1. Examples of Habibat bat roost units have been included in Appendix 1.

2. Avoid placing external lighting that illuminates the newly installed bat roost units.

3. The uptake and use of these integral bat roost units should be monitored.

4.2 Increase opportunities for hedgehog

1. Hedgehog have potential to occur on the site. To maintain commuting routes for hedgehogs between the newly created gardens and the existing areas, any fences that are installed should have a small hole in the bottom, 13cmx13cm, or be raised off the ground. Alternatively, hedgehog-friendly gravel boards can be purchased, which are pre-cast or cut with a hole in that allows hedgehogs to pass through. Further information on hedgehog-friendly timber gravel boards can be found at https://www.jacksons-fencing.co.uk/hedgehog-fencing, with hedgehog-friendly concrete gravel boards available from other suppliers. Examples of these types of gravel boards are provided in Appendix 2. Ideally, hedges comprising native species should be used in place of fences where possible.

2. A hedgehog shelter box should be placed on site. A suitable location would be within the privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium* hedgerow to the west of property 65 (shown in the landscape proposals for the site from February 2019). The location of this feature is shown in Figure 1. Further information on features for hedgehogs is given in Appendix 2.

4.3 Provision for nesting birds

1. Install three sparrow terrace boxes within the development. Ideally, integrated sparrow terrace boxes will be used as these are more durable than external timber boxes. These should be installed under the eaves of the buildings, on or between north and east elevations of the new buildings in order to avoid the strongest sunlight and wettest winds. An example of a Habibat sparrow terrace box is given in Appendix 3.

2. Install three integral 25mm hole nest boxes within the development. Where possible, these should be sheltered away from the prevailing wind, rain and strong sunlight, positioned on the north or east elevations. Examples of suitable Habibat nest boxes are shown in Appendix 3.

3. Install six integral swift nest boxes within the development. These should be installed high on buildings, at least 5m from the ground, and underneath the overhang of eaves. It would be suitable to install these within two-storey buildings within the development. Suitable Habibat nest boxes are shown in Appendix 3, with advice on siting and installing swift nest boxes included as Appendix 4.

4. The uptake and use of bird nesting features should be monitored.

4.4 Increasing opportunities for invertebrate species

1. As shown in the landscaping plan, amenity grassland areas should be seeded with Emorsgate Seeds EG22 mixture (strong lawn grass mixture). Areas of longer grass and parts of the public open space should be seeded with Emorsgate Seeds EM2 mixture (standard general purpose meadow mixture). The areas of meadow mixture should be cut once a year, in late summer/early autumn and the arisings removed after 7 days to enable the wildflowers to flourish. Details of how to adequately prepare the ground prior to seeding, as well as ongoing management can be found on the Emorsgate website. This will benefit invertebrate populations on site which, in turn, will benefit wildlife which preys on invertebrates, such as birds and bats.

2. Plant flower borders within any landscaped areas of the site to include night scented flowers in order to attract moths and other night flying insects (which will provide foraging opportunities for bats).

3. Any new trees and hedgerows to be planted should comprise native species. Ideally these will also be berry bearing species, as this will provide food for birds and other animals.

4. The areas of planting should be inspected annually, and any planting that fails to establish or dies within the first 5 years, should be replaced in the next available planting season.

5. Any management of trees and vegetation should be undertaken on alternate sides each

year, or allow several years growth before trimming to enhance insect populations. The management of the landscaped areas could be undertaken on a rotation, so that not all areas are cut back at the same time. This type of management will also benefit other species that feed on the fruit and nectar sources provided by the planting.

4.5 Protection of statutorily protected species

1. Lighting on site should be kept to a minimum during construction and thereafter. External lighting should, wherever possible, be limited to the immediate surrounds of the buildings. If it is absolutely necessary to include some external lighting around the buildings, then these should be carefully designed to minimise disturbance to bats, by using down-lights rather than up-lights and using shields to limit light spill. Any external lighting (especially up-lights) used should emit minimal ultra-violet light, be narrow-spectrum (avoiding white and blue wavelengths) and should peak higher than 550nm. It should be remembered that artificial lighting disrupts and disturbs many animals, including birds and invertebrates, as well as bats.

2. Ensure that the site boundaries remain unlit and can be used as a dark corridor by foraging/commuting bats. It is very important that the site has dark corridors in order that bats roosting in the properties to the east of the site can commute across and around the site towards adjacent woodland habitat. Streetlights on the edges of the site may require shields or adaptations to minimise light spill. Further information about artificial lighting and wildlife is included in Appendix 5.

3. In order to protect statutorily protected species (nesting birds), work to remove any vegetation on site should commence outside the active nesting season which typically runs from March through to late August. If work commences during the bird breeding season, a search for nests should be carried out before they begin, and active nests should be cordoned off and protected until the young fledge.

5 WORK PROGRAMME

TIMING	ACTIVITY
Year 1 (2020)	
All year	Install bat roost units and bird nest boxes as work progresses. Seed grassed areas of the site and undertake landscaping as work progresses.
Year 2 (2021)	
All year	Continue to install bat roost units and bird nest boxes as work progresses. Monitor uptake of bat roost units and bird nest boxes. Seed grassed areas of the site and undertake landscaping as work progresses. Monitor establishment of landscape features and planting.
Year 3 (2022)	
All year	Continue to install bat roost units and bird nest boxes as work progresses. Monitor uptake of bat roost units and bird nest boxes. Seed grassed areas of the site and undertake landscaping as work progresses. Monitor establishment of landscape features and planting.
Year 4 (2023)	
All year	Continue to install bat roost units and bird nest boxes as work progresses. Monitor uptake of bat roost units and bird nest boxes. Seed grassed areas of the site and undertake landscaping as work progresses. Monitor establishment of landscape features and planting.

TIMING	ACTIVITY
Year 5 (2024)	
All year	Monitor use of bat roosts and bird nest boxes. Monitor establishment of landscape features and planting. Re-survey the site in summer months and provide short report to South Holland District Council which details the species using the site and makes an assessment of the ecological value of the site.

6 REFERENCES AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

Barker, C. 2016. *Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey, Land at Crease Drove, Crowland, South Holland, NGR TF23599 09695*. C.B.E. Consulting, unpublished.

Eaton, M., Aebischer, N., Brown, A., Hearn, R., Lock, L., Musgrove, A., Noble, D., Stroud, D. and Gregory, R. 2015. *Birds of Conservation Concern 4: the population status of birds in the United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man*. British Birds 108, pp708–746.

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FIGURE 1

Suggested locations for biodiversity features

KEY

- Bat roost units (x12)
- Hedgehog shelter box (x1)
- Sparrow terrace box (x3)
- 25mm hole nest box (x3)
- Swift nest box (x6)

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APPENDIX 1

Bat roost units (Habibat)

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Habibat 3S Bat Box Range

Habibat 003 Bat Box Range

Habibat 001 Bat Box Standard Facing

Habibat unfaced bat box

More information available at http://www.habibat.co.uk/

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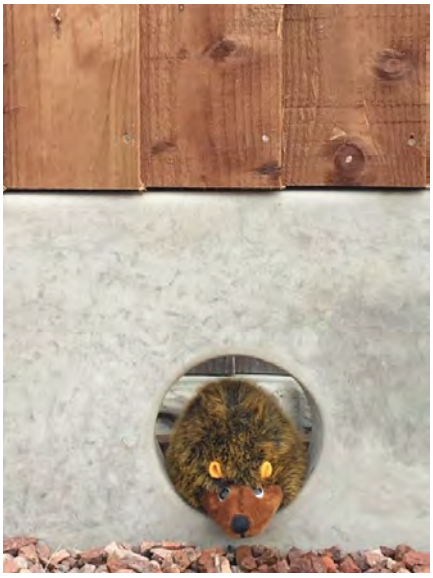
APPENDIX 2

Features for hedgehogs



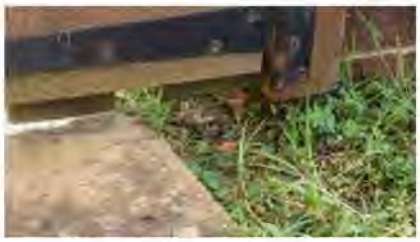
Hedgehog-friendly concrete gravel boards (Fabcast Fencing and Kebur Garden Materials)

Hedgehog-friendly timber gravel boards (Jackson's Fencing and Jarrett Fencing)

Hedgehogs will travel through a number of gardens in one night looking for food and nest sites. To allow a hedgehog access into the gardens, all it takes is a 130mm - 130mm square gap in a fence panel, under a gate or alternatively using native hedges in place of fences.

Having a series of hedgehog gaps across the site will encourage the creation of hedgehog friendly routes between gardens and other habitat, removing the need for hedgehogs to wander out onto our busy roads.

Ensure that garden ponds have at least one side that slopes gently, to allow any hedgehog to get out, or form a ramp to create an escape route.



Gap under a gate

Hole in a timber fence panel

Hole in a plastic fence panel

A nesting option for hedgehogs can also be provided, by creating a natural feature such as a compost heap or log pile. Artificial hedgehog houses may also be used by hedgehogs, and are widely available. Choose a shady, quiet area of the garden to site the hedgehog house, and ensure that there are plenty of leaves near to the box, or leave out straw and hay which can be used.

Wooden hedgehog house

Schwegler hedgehog dome

More information on how you can make your garden hedgehog-friendly can be found on the Hedgehog Street campaign website, run by the People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) and British Hedgehog Preservation Society: www.hedgehogstreet.org

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APPENDIX 3

Bird nest boxes (Habibat)

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Habibat Terraced Sparrow Box (integrated)

Habibat Small Bird Nest Box (integrated, 25mm hole)

Habibat Swift Box

Habibat 003 Swift Box

More information available at http://www.habibat.co.uk/

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APPENDIX 4

Swift nest box installation information

SWIFTCONSERVATION
KEEPING THE SKIES ALIVE www.swift-conservation.org

Swift Nest Bricks – installation & suppliers

Swift Bricks installed by Notting Hill Housing Association / Barnet Council - simple, cost effective, neat

What's great about Swifts?

- **Swifts are stunning** – the UK's fastest bird in level flight, faster than a Peregrine Falcon in a dive
- **They bring us the Sound of Summer** - their screaming calls & dashing flight are exciting, unique
- **They can liven up the grimmest places** – they'll nest in the bleakest of urban concrete jungles
- **They've travelled so far to be with us** – they're only here for 12 weeks out of 52, spending the rest of the year in Africa over the Congo & Sahara
- **They're a technological marvel** – Swifts use the same high-tech aerodynamic technologies that engineers use for advanced aircraft designs
- **They've been with us for 49 million years** – let's make sure they stay with us!
- **They can eat up to 20,000 flying insects a day each** - many of them harmful or pests
- **They can help you get Planning Permission** - installing Swift Bricks can meet Planners requirements and gain you BREEAM points too

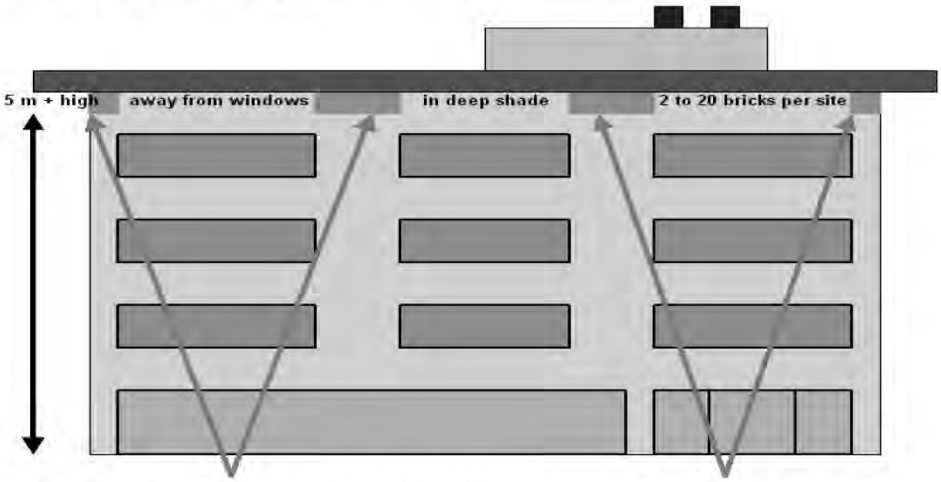
and

- **Swifts are the cleanest birds ever** – they rarely defecate in the nest & eat their chicks' droppings
- **They're so discreet** - you'll hardly know they are in the roof, nesting over your heads
- **Wildlife is good for us!** - it makes us happier and healthier

Swift Nest Bricks – easy but choosing the right site is important

Swift nest bricks, hollow blocks sized to hold a nest, are an excellent way to provide Swifts with nesting opportunities. They should be fitted either on a side of the building that gets some shade during the day, or under an overhang or under the eaves, to give protection from heat, but not over windows or near to vents. They should be sited at least 5 metres above ground, with clear adjacent airspace so the Swifts can access them in high-speed direct flight (they usually fly straight in and out). Make sure that predators (cats, crows, magpies, squirrels, and rats) do not have easy access (e.g. by climbing up creepers or flying in from close perches). See the drawing below, and the photos at the end of the leaflet for guidance and examples.

Where to Install your Swift Bricks



Install the Swift bricks under the roof, in the top course of blockwork, in shaded areas out of direct sunlight, (shown here as pink blocks) and away from windows. Swift Brick installations do not usually generate any problems with droppings, but the Swifts may be disturbed by people staring at them!
Minimum height from the ground should be 5 metres, and the boxes should not be obstructed by trees, ladders or aerials.

Choosing your "Swift Nest Brick" nest box

You can find a good range of Swift nest bricks illustrated below, with details of their suppliers, plus a brief summary of the various materials and types and their uses. Select the Swift nest brick that meets your needs, your budget, and your ability to fit it. The longer lasting the Swift nest brick and the more soundly it is fitted, the better it is for the Swifts.

Fitting the Swift Nest Brick

Good nest bricks are made to give many years of useful service, and so installation and any fixings used must be equally long-lasting. They may also be fitted behind metal and timber cladding, in which case the manufacturer's'advice on suitable fixing methods should be obtained.

Keep yourself safe

Establish a safe system of work and follow scrupulously all safety advice before installing Swift nest bricks. Use the appropriate personal protective equipment required for the task.

Checking use and maintenance

Swift nest places do not usually need any cleaning. Many Swift nest bricks, if competently installed do not need any maintenance. Where bricks with removable covers are used, there will be a need to regularly check those covers for integrity. We suggest this is done as part of the building's regular maintenance programme.

How many

Swifts like a few neighbours and a busy Swift colony will be a powerful attraction to other Swifts to come in and nest. So fit at least two to twenty boxes on your site, taking into account its size. For a house, two boxes, for a school or office or warehouse project, ten to twenty.

The Ibstock "Eco Home for Swifts" Brick
clay and recycled plastic

Discrete and attractive terracotta box ideal for new and restored buildings
Insert under eaves or in high walls - Terracotta & recycled plastic plank

Made to order - takes 10 to 14 days
Available in smooth red, blue & cream clays Size 326mm x 140mm x 140mm
Product code UNQ.SWIFT01 £POA

www.ibstock.com
sales 0844 800 4575
design advice 0844 800 4576
technical services 0844 800 4577
literature and samples 0844 800 4578

Ibstock Brick Ltd. Cattybrook Sales Office
Almondsbury, Bristol BS32 4BX

Action for Swift's "S" Swift nest box
Laser-cut Foamboard and brick

Revolutionary, light-weight, aesthetically attractive new Swift brick that replaces a single brick and can be laid easily and quickly by any bricklayer.

It comprises a laser-cut PVC foamboard nest chamber and a brick slip front and is one of the simplest and lightest nest bricks on the market.

Simple and proven, (see photo below) this nest brick encourages Swifts and House Sparrows to nest in brick and rendered cavity walls.

It can be made to different brick sizes, cavity widths and brick facings; it includes a built-in nest form and it is available in left and right hand entrance versions.

The version of the "S" Brick for rendered walls

An occupied "S" Brick in Cambridgeshire

For full details on the "S" Swift Brick

Web: actionforswifts.blogspot.com
e-mail: actionforswifts@gmail.com

The Bird Brick Houses nest box
Plastic and brick

This nest box is made out of plastic with a detachable plastic front frame holding your own brick or stone finish, made to your needs, and set into the wall.

This box can be supplied with various front panels permitting entry by Swifts or several other bird or bat species. It matches neatly into standard brick patterns, and even into flint walls.

Bird Brick Houses, The Old Parlour, Wilbees Farm, Arlington, E. Sussex, BN26 6RU

Tel: - 01323 488732

e-mail : Enquiries@birdbrickhouses.co.uk

Web site:
http://www.birdbrickhouses.co.uk/

Schwegler "Woodcrete" Bricks & Boxes of Cement –fibre compound

Swift nest bricks from Schwegler are made from a compound called "Woodcrete"

A mixture of cement and plant fibre, it is strong and long lasting, if heavy

Such boxes, if sensibly sited and maintained, have the potential to last as long as the building, making them particularly attractive and cost effective

http://www.schwegler-natur.de/index.php?main=home

UK suppliers: NHBS

Phone - 01803 865913 Prices on application

customer.services@nhbs.com
http://www.nhbs.com/about/contact_us.php

NHBS, 2-3 Wills Road, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 5XN UK

On the right, the Schwegler Swift Brick No: 25 suitable for solid walls.

265mm wide x 220mm deep x 180mm high

Above, the Schwegler Lightweight Swift Box 1A designed for fitting into plastered and insulated walls. W 340mm x H 135mm x D 150mm (plus 17mm for the protruding entrance ring)

Schwegler make several designs of Swift nest box that can be sunk into the walls of brick or block built buildings, or bolted on to the surface.

The one illustrated to the left and above, the Swift & Bat Box 1MF, is their double box. There is also a single version

WoodStone® Build-in Swift Nest Box
Code 90068

Made from a cement and wood fibre mixture this nest-brick is intended for insertion into walls at five metres or above from ground level, in an area providing clear air-space. This box can be opened for cleaning and/or checking in winter

W 33cm x H 19cm x D 16cm

Cement and wood fibre mix

Every WoodStone® nest box from CJ Wildlife is guaranteed for 10 years.

WoodStone® Build-in Swift Box
Code 90060

Made from a cement and wood fibre mixture this nest-brick is intended for insertion into walls at five metres or above from ground level, in an area providing clear air-space. This box once fitted requires no further maintenance, and may be plastered over, leaving only the entrance hole visible.

Sales:
Tel: 0800 731 2820
sales@birdfood.co.uk
http://www.birdfood.co.uk/ctrl/node:169;page:87;/vivara_pro

W 31cm x H 17cm x D 17cm
Material Cement and wood fi
Every WoodStone® nest box from CJ Wildlife is guaranteed for 10 years.

For current prices please contact the Suppliers direct

Attracting the Swifts - using the Swift Calls CD

It can take a while for Swifts to find a new nest place. But nest site occupation can be speeded up if a recording of Swifts' attraction calls is played to attract them. Full instructions plus CD and MP3 recordings of the calls are available from us - see below for contact details.

Do's & Don'ts – please tell the occupiers

Do give the birds' peace and quiet and every chance to breed
If a bird falls from the nest and cannot fly, consult the Swift First Aid pages of our web site
http://www.swift-conservation.org/SwiftFirstAid.htm
Don't stand and stare at the nest box when the Swifts are around. It may put them off
Don't disturb the Swifts at any time - they may well desert the nest
Don't allow creepers or plants to encroach on the nest. They will give access to predators

Some examples

Antrim Public Library, Northern Ireland: Ibstock Swift bricks were used to bring life to this featureless wall

Swifts used the Antrim nest bricks in 2014

Eight Schwegler Swift Bricks were installed and hidden behind the plastered facade of the new Cullompton Library in Devon

The New Library at Cullompton - the Swift Bricks are scarcely visible but should bring some aerial life and action to this new site

Two Schwegler Swift Bricks installed in the walls of the Maternity Unit at the Lister Hospital

The Lister Hospital at East & North Hertfordshire NHS Trust Stevenage Hertfordshire

Left & below:

An example of Swift Bricks being used on a major project: the "Pelikan" construction site, built by GUNDLACH, in Hannover, Germany

80 Swift bricks were incorporated in the walls of this new development which will bring Swifts flying over this huge modern housing project

Further advice is available

See our web-site at **www.swift-conservation.org**

or contact us at **mail@swift-conservation.org.uk**

Leaflet 4 - Swift Nest Bricks – installation & suppliers

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APPENDIX 5
Artificial lighting and wildlife

Bat Conservation Trust

INSTITUTION OF LIGHTING PROFESSIONALS

Guidance Note 08/18

Bats and artificial lighting in the UK

Bats and the Built Environment series

Common pipistrelle bat © Hugh Clark / www.bats.org.uk

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This document is aimed at lighting professionals, lighting designers, planning officers, developers, bat workers/ecologists and anyone specifying lighting. It is intended to raise awareness of the impacts of artificial lighting on bats, and mitigation is suggested for various scenarios. However it is not meant to replace site-specific ecological and lighting assessments.

This is a working document and as such the information contained has been updated in line with advances in our knowledge both into the impact on bats and also to reflect the advances in technology available in the lighting industry at the time of publication.

The information provided here is believed to be correct. However, no responsibility can be accepted by the Bat Conservation Trust, the Institution of Lighting Professionals or any of their partners or officers for any consequences of errors or omissions, nor responsibility for loss occasioned to any person acting or refraining from action as a result of information and no claims for compensation for damage or negligence will be accepted.

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Glossary of technical terms

Terms used in this document or that may be used by the lighting industry

Arc tube	A tube, normally ceramic or quartz, enclosed by the outer glass envelope of a high-intensity discharge lamp (HID) that contains the arc stream.
Asymmetric beams	Lamp is off-centre in a reflector more steeply curved at one end.
Calculation Plane	An even grid of points denoting the anticipated or modelled intensity (candelas) or illuminance (lux) levels at a given point.
Candela	The intensity of a light source in a specific direction. Unit of luminous intensity.
CMS – Central Management System	Is a specially developed software and service package that can efficiently handle all tasks of data collection and facility management. It allows users to remotely monitor and control lighting and apply dimming and/or switching controls.
Colour Rendering Index (CRI)	A scale from 0 to 100 percent indicating how accurate a given light source is at rendering colour when compared to a reference light source. The higher the number, the better a light source is at revealing the actual colours present at a surface or object.
Contrast	The relationship between the luminance of an object and its background. The higher the contrast the more likely it is an object can be seen.
Cowl	Physical light spill control accessory.
Diffuse	Term describing dispersed light distribution referring to the scattering of light.
Efficacy	A measure of light output against energy consumption measured in lumens per watt.
Glare	The sensation produced by luminances within the visual field that are sufficiently greater than the luminance to which the eyes are adapted, which causes annoyance, discomfort, or loss in visual performance and visibility.
Hood	Physical light spill control accessory.
Illuminance	Illuminance is the quantity of light, or luminous flux, falling on a unit area of a surface. It is sometimes designated by the symbol E. The unit is the lux (lx). Luminance refers to the light given off from a source while illuminance refers to the amount of light hitting a surface.
Lamp	Light source.
Light cone	The angle at which the beam falls off to 50% of peak intensity.
Light pollution	The spillage of light into areas where it is not required. Also known as obtrusive light.
Light spill	The light that falls outside the light cone.
Light trespass (nuisance)	Light that impacts on a surface outside of the area designed to be lit by a lighting installation. The correct legal term is nuisance.
Louvres	Physical light spill control accessory.

Lumen	The unit of light power emitted from a light source
Luminaire	Lighting enclosure, lantern, or unit designed to distribute light from a lamp or lamps.
Luminance	The physical measurement of the stimulus that produces the sensation of brightness measured by the luminous intensity reflected in a given direction. The unit is the candela per square metre (cd/m^2). Luminance refers to the light given off from a source while illuminance refers to the amount of light hitting a surface.
Lux (LX)	This is 'illuminance' or the quantity of light (luminous flux), falling on a unit area of a surface in the environment. It is sometimes designated by the symbol E.
Maintenance factor	A correction applied to a lighting calculation to allow for the build-up of dirt on a luminaire and the deprecation of the lumen output of a lamp over time. 1=100% output, 0.9=90% etc.
Optic	The components of a luminaire such as reflectors, refractors, and protectors which make up the directional light control section.
Photocell	A unit which senses light to control luminaires.
Reflector	A device used to reflect light in a given direction.
Refractor	A device used to redirect the light output from a lamp when the light passes through it. It is usually made from prismatic glass or plastic.
Shield	Physical light spill control accessory.
Sky glow	The brightening of the night sky caused by artificial lighting.
Symmetric beams	Lamp mounted in the centre of the reflector.
Voltage	The difference in electrical potential between two points of an electrical circuit.
Watt (W)	The unit for measuring electrical power.
Upward Light Output Ratio ULOR (%)	The proportion of direct light transmitted from the luminaire above 90° in the vertical plane

Chart of example lux levels for reference

Lighting conditions	Lux level	Lighting conditions	Lux level
British summer sunshine	50,000	Typical side road lighting	5
Overcast sky	5,000	Minimum security lighting	2
Well-lit office	500	Twilight	1
Minimum for easy reading	300	Clear full moon	0.25 to <1
Passageway or outside working area	50	Typical moonlight/cloudy sky	0.1
Good main road lighting	5-20	Typical starlight	0.001
Sunset	10	Poor starlight	0.0001

Source: IPCCTV specialists use-IP Ltd

1. Bats

General ecology

Bats are the only true flying mammals. Like us, they are warm-blooded, give birth to live young and produce milk for suckling. In Britain there are 18 species, all of which are small (most weigh less than a £1 coin) and eat insects.

Bats have developed a highly sophisticated echolocation system that allows them to avoid obstacles and catch these insects. When they're flying, bats produce a stream of high-pitched calls and listen to the echoes to produce a sound picture of their surroundings.

Some bats specialise in catching large insects such as beetles or moths but others eat large numbers of very small insects, such as gnats, midges and mosquitoes. Bats gather to feed wherever there are lots of insects, so the best places for them include traditional pasture, woodland, hedgerows, marshes, ponds and slow moving rivers.

During the winter there are relatively few insects available, so bats hibernate. They seek out appropriate sheltered roosts, let their body temperature drop to close to that of their surroundings and slow their heart rate to only a few beats per minute. This greatly reduces their energy requirements so that their food reserves last as long as possible.

During the spring and summer period female bats gather together into maternity colonies for a few weeks to give birth and rear their young (called pups). Usually only one pup is born each year. Bats may gather together from a large area to form these maternity roosts in warm and dry environments, so impacts at the summer breeding site can affect the whole colony of bats from a wide surrounding area.

Both winter and summer roosts have specific conditions that bats require at those times of the year and that is why bats are so faithful to their roosts. They are also an unusually long-lived mammal with a slow reproductive rate for their size, meaning that they return year after year to roosts. If roosts are damaged or disturbed it takes a very long time for a population to recover.

For information on populations see http://www.bats.org.uk

Legal protection of bats

Due to the decline in bat numbers over the last century and the importance of specific roost requirements in their life cycle, all species of bat and their roost sites (whether bats are present at the time or not) are fully protected under international and domestic legislation. The international protection (the EC Habitats Directive) has been transposed into national laws by means of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (England and Wales), the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended) (Scotland) and the Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended). Commonly the regulations are referred to as the Habitats Regulations. This makes it illegal to kill, injure, capture, or cause disturbance that affects populations of bats, obstruct access to bat roosts, or damage or destroy bat roosts. Individual bats are protected from 'intentional' or 'reckless' disturbance under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Lighting in the vicinity of a bat roost causing disturbance and potential abandonment of the roost could constitute an offence both to a population and to individuals (Garland and Markham, 2007). It is therefore important that the use of an area by bats is thoroughly assessed before artificial lighting is changed or added in the vicinity of a roost or where bats may commute or forage.

Natural England, Natural Resources Wales, Scottish Natural Heritage or Northern Ireland Environment Agency will need to

see that any impacts have been fully assessed and appropriate mitigation considered within any mitigation licence applications in relation to bats. Similarly these bodies will be statutory consultees in planning applications where impacts on Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), including those designated for bat conservation, are considered possible.

Local authorities also have a duty to ensure impacts upon legally protected species are avoided, and impacts upon bats are a material consideration in any planning permission. Furthermore, local authorities typically have specific planning policies ensuring that impacts upon wildlife, including bats, are avoided within development.

Impacts from artificial lighting

Studies have estimated that in 2016 more than 80% of the world population and more than 99% of the U.S. and European population live under light-polluted skies. Worldwide this is up from 66% in 2001, or an increase of more than 14% (Cinzano et al 2001); 'light-polluted skies' are defined as being about 10% higher than normal night sky brightness levels (Fabio et al 2016).

This means that only about a fifth of England now has 'pristine night skies' – that is skies 'completely free from light pollution' (CPRE 2016). Concerns about the impacts of this have been expressed for a long time, both in reference to human and ecosystem health (Gaston et al 2015).

For bats, artificial lighting is thought to increase the chances of predation, and therefore bats may modify their behaviour to respond to this threat (Speakman et al 1991, Jones et al 1994). Many avian predators will hunt bats which may be one reason why bats avoid flying in the day.

When we refer to artificial lighting we are referring to a number of different characteristics and types (see 'Artificial lighting' section below), all of which have varying impacts. For example, different types of luminaire emit a different spectrum of light. The spectrum of light runs from short wave (ultraviolet) to long wave (infrared), and can vary in intensity (potentially causing glare) and illuminance (measured in lux). Definitions of technical terms can be found in the glossary.

Roosting and commuting

Illuminating a bat roost can cause disturbance (Downs et al 2003) and this may result in the bats deserting the roost or even becoming entombed within it (Packman et al 2015). Light falling on a roost access point will at least delay bats from emerging and this shortens the amount of time available to them for foraging (Boldogh et al 2007). As the main peak of nocturnal insect abundance occurs at and soon after dusk, a delay in emergence means this vital time for feeding is missed. This has been shown to have direct impacts on bats' reproductive ecology, such as slower growth rates and starvation of young (Duverge et al 2000).

In addition, the associated flightpath to and from the access point is just as valuable and vulnerable as the roost itself. Severing a key flightpath some distance from the roost could cause desertion in its own right.

Foraging

In addition to causing disturbance to bats at the roost, artificial lighting can also affect the feeding behaviour of bats. There are two aspects to this. One is the attraction that light from certain types of light sources has to a range of insects; the other is the presence of lit conditions posing a barrier to movement.

Many night-flying species of insect are attracted to light, especially those light sources that emit an ultraviolet component or have a high blue spectral content. This is particularly a problem if it is a single light source in a dark area. As well as moths (Wakefield et al 2015), a range of other insects can be attracted to light such as craneflies, midges and lacewings (Bruce-White et al 2011).

Studies have shown that noctule, Leisler's bat, serotine and pipistrelle bats can congregate around white mercury street lights (Rydell J et al 1993, Blake et al 1994) and white metal halide lamps (Stone et al 2015b) feeding on the insects attracted to the light, but this behaviour is not true for all bat species. The slower-flying broad winged species such as long-eared bats, Myotis species (which include Brandt's bat, whiskered, Daubenton's bat, Natterer's bat and Bechstein's bat), barbastelle, and greater and lesser horseshoe bats generally avoid all street lights (Stone et al 2009, 2012, 2015a). Consequently, bat species less tolerant of light are put at a competitive disadvantage and are less able to forage successfully and efficiently. This can have a significant impact upon fitness and breeding success.

The spectral impacts of light break down further still; when presented with lights with a range of colour types, it has been shown that Plecotus and Myotis species (slow flying) avoided white and green light lit areas, but Pipistrellus species (fast flying) were significantly more abundant feeding at these lights (Spoelstra et al 2015, 2017). However, both groups were equally abundant in the red light areas compared to the dark control, which may provide options for lighting when considering mitigation (see 'Mitigation' section below).

In addition it is thought that insects are attracted to lit areas from beyond the immediately illuminated habitat. This is thought to result in adjacent habitats supporting reduced numbers of insects, a 'vacuum effect'; population declines have been shown further afield, suggesting both direct and indirect impacts at play (Langevelde et al 2018). This is a further impact on the ability of the light-avoiding bats to be able to feed. It is noticeable that most of Britain's rarest bats are among those species listed as avoiding artificial light, so artificial lighting has potentially devastating conservation consequences for these species (Rowse et al 2016).

Drinking

The effects of artificial lighting on drinking resources for bats has been recorded to be stronger than on foraging. White light has been shown to stop slower-flying species drinking at cattle troughs, and even for faster-flying species drinking behaviour was reduced, however foraging behaviour increased as above (Russo et al 2017).

Commuting

When considering how bats move through the landscape, artificial lighting has been shown to be particularly harmful if used along river corridors, near woodland edges and near hedgerows. In mainland Europe, in areas where there are foraging or 'commuting' bats, stretches of road are left unlit or lighting is designed in such a way as to avoid bat colonies being cut off from their foraging grounds.

Studies have shown that continuous lighting in the landscape, such as along roads or waterways, creates barriers which many bat species cannot cross, especially the slower-flying species (Fure, A. 2012), even at very low light levels. Lesser horseshoe bats have been shown to move their flight paths which link their roosts and foraging grounds to avoid artificial light installed on their usual commuting route. Significant impacts have been recorded from as low as 3.6 lux (Stone et al 2012). Furthermore, the average light level on hedgerows most regularly used by this species has been recorded at 0.45 lux (Stone et al 2009).

Even bat species that have been shown to opportunistically forage in lit conditions (see above) have subsequently been recorded being impacted by artificial lighting. In our cities, for example, common pipistrelles – the UK's most numerous species – have been recorded avoiding gaps that are well lit, thereby creating a barrier effect (Hale et al 2015).

Migrating

Green light has been shown to not only impact upon foraging bats (see above) but also bats migrating through Europe.

Nathusius' and soprano pipistrelles have been shown to be attracted to green light from a distance further than their echolocation calls reach, indicating they are attracted to the light rather than insects (Voigt et al 2017). This demonstrates positive light attraction for this species meaning limiting UV is only part of the solution and indicates impacts from artificial light at night that aren't yet fully understood for migrating bats. This is especially true given that the most recent studies in this area suggest that red light also causes positive light responses for both of these bat species when they are migrating over and above warm-white light (Voigt et al 2018).

Summary

In summary, these impacts both alone and in combination are likely to have significant impacts for slower-flying, rarer species, and even for fast-flying species, potentially affecting reproductive, foraging and roosting opportunities. On a population and ecosystem level, impacts may affect the overall genetic pool of bat species and their prey species.

Consequently, if bats are suspected as being present on site ecological advice should be sought – and potentially survey data collected – in advance of any lighting design or fixing of scheme layout.

2. Artificial lighting

Types of lights used in exterior lighting applications

1. **Low-pressure sodium lamps (SOX)** (orange lamps seen along roadsides). Light is emitted predominantly at one wavelength, contains no ultraviolet (UV) light, and has a low attraction to insects. The lamps tend to be large which makes it more difficult to focus the light from these lamps. These are in the gradual process of being removed or replaced, in part due to their poor colour rendition, and will not be available past 2019
2. **High-pressure sodium lamps (SON)** (brighter pinkish-yellow lamps). Commonly used as road lighting. Light is emitted over a moderate band of long wavelengths giving little, if any, UV component, except for the version of the lamp used in horticulture. Insects are attracted to the brighter light. The lamp is of medium size and the light can be more easily directed than low pressure sodium. This lamp is still used for some main road lighting but this is being reduced; these lamps are expected to be phased out in the future.
3. **Mercury lamps (MBF)** (bluish-white lamps). These emit light over a moderate spectrum, including a larger component of UV light to which insects are particularly sensitive. Insects are attracted in large numbers along with high densities of certain tolerant bat species (Rydell & Racey 1993). They ceased to be available in the EU in 2015 and are rare now.
4. **White SON**. This is a reddish white light source. It is based on high-pressure sodium technology and has the same UV component as SON. This source is no longer used and is not available now.
5. **Metal halide.** A small lamp and therefore more easy to focus light and make directional. Emits a small UV content. The light source is available in three forms a) quartz arc tube (HQI); b) ceramic arc tube (CDM-T) and c) CosmoPolis which is the newest of the ceramic forms. Still used by some for some exterior lighting applications.
6. **Light emitting diodes (LEDs)**. This is the light source of choice for most local authorities. The light emitted is more directional and normally controlled by lenses or sometimes reflectors. The light is produced in a narrow beam. It is an instant light source. LED is available in a number of colour temperatures. Older installations tend to use 'cool white' (blueish colour) at >5700° Kelvin. More recently, 4000°K has become more commonly used. 'Warm white' (more yellow/orange colour) at around 3000°K and as low as 2700°K can now be used with little reduction in lumen output. LED typically features no UV component and research indicates that while lower UV components attract fewer invertebrates, warmer colour temperatures with peak wavelengths greater than 550nm (~3000°K) cause less impacts on bats (Stone, 2012, 2015a, 2015b).
7. **Tungsten halogen**. Is not used in new lighting schemes but may be encountered as security light on a private household.
8. **Compact fluorescent.** Mostly in use in residential street lighting. It produces a white light; variants are available with

Light source spectral ranges	
High pressure sodium	~390 to 800 nanometres (nm)
Tungsten Halogen	~400 to 800 nm
Metal Halide	~400 to 800 nm
LEDs	~410 to 750 nm
Compact fluorescent	~410 to 820 nm

UV spectral ranges	
UVA	315 to 400 nanometres (nm)
UVb	280 to 315 nm
UVc	100 to 280 nm

minimal UV output. It can be used at a low wattage and therefore on a low output to achieve low levels of illuminance (measured in lux).

Legal requirements for lighting

It is important to remember that there is no legislation requiring an area or road to be lit.

The building regulations for domestic buildings specify that 150 watts is the maximum for exterior lighting of buildings but this does not apply to private individuals who install their own lighting.

There are a number of British Standards that relate to various components of lighting – BS5489 for road lighting, BS12164 for outdoor workplaces, BS12193 for sports lighting – and there are also guidelines that relate to crime prevention, prevention of vehicular accidents and amenity use.

BS5266-1:2011 relates to the design of emergency lighting and specifies that the minimum lighting level within an escape route from a building is 1 lux. While this represents an increase in lighting, because of the nature and infrequent use of emergency lighting (as most systems are non-maintained – off unless an emergency occurs) this should not pose an issue to bats.

Lighting and the planning system

Many county councils and less often district and borough councils set out standards in local guidance policy documents.

When a developer is assessing the need for lighting it would be beneficial to ask the local authority for their lighting policy document as this should incorporate all of the above. It is likely that local planning authorities will have policies outlining lighting standards for new roads or in public areas. However, local authorities also have a duty to ensure impacts upon legally protected species are avoided.

Roads, cycleways and footpaths to be adopted by a council highway authority may require some form of lighting. Some local authorities may only use columns and may not permit bollard lighting along footpaths or cycleways, or have certain illuminance standards to meet, therefore it is advisable to seek further specific information for your location. In addition to lighting on the application site the ecologist may also need to assess the effects of proposed illumination on habitat beyond the site boundary; for example, along roads and paths where proposed lighting connects to existing street lighting to cover access to the development and beyond. Surveys for lighting and bat activity to cover these areas may be required outside the proposed development's red line boundary.

Consequently, a judgement on the sensitivity of the particular bat feature or habitat on site and the perceived public need for lighting in proximity to it would need to be made. This would be done through collaborative discussion between the project ecologist, lighting professional and local authority (potentially involving one or more of the planning officer, ecology officer, highways officer or council lighting professional). This team can decide whether, where bat features or habitats are particularly important or sensitive, it may be appropriate to avoid, redesign or limit lighting accordingly. Such reasoned compromise decisions between protected species and public lighting, where it is justified to deviate from policy standards, are becoming increasingly accepted by local authorities. In addition, any unavoidable residual lighting may require further mitigation (alternative habitat creation, artificial barriers to lighting etc) over and above that for direct habitat loss. See 'Mitigation' section below for further information.

Domestic lighting needs no planning permission and depends on direct advice on the effects of lighting on bats being given to the householder. Lighting associated with new development or a

listed building does require planning permission.

When dealing with applications for the addition of artificial lighting planning officers or developers should ensure a lighting assessment is done alongside an ecological assessment. Full details on this process can be found in Mitigation section below.

Planning conditions requiring the detail of any domestic amenity and security lighting are regularly applied, as are those relating to the post-development monitoring of light levels against any modelled or baseline levels. This usually includes light trespass through windows in proximity to important bat habitat or roost features.

3. Mitigation of artificial lighting impacts on bats

This section provides a simple process which should be followed where the impact on bats is being considered as part of a proposed lighting scheme. It contains techniques which can be used on all sites, whether a small domestic project or larger mixed-use, commercial or infrastructure development. It also provides best-practice advice for the design of the lighting scheme for both lighting professionals and other users who may be less familiar with the terminology and theory.

The stepwise process and key follow-up actions are outlined in the flowchart overleaf, and are followed throughout the chapter.

The questions within this flow chart should be asked as early as possible, so that necessary bat survey information can be gathered in advance of any lighting design or fixing of overall scheme design.

Effective mitigation of lighting impacts on bats depends on close collaboration from the outset between multiple disciplines within a project. Depending on the specific challenges this will almost certainly involve ecologists working alongside architects and/or engineers; however, lighting professionals and landscape architects should be approached when recommended by your ecologist. This should be done as early in your project as possible in order to ensure mitigation is as effective as it can be and to minimise delays and unforeseen costs.

Step 1: Determine whether bats could be present on site

If your site has the potential to support bats or you are at all unsure, it is highly recommended that an ecologist is appointed to advise further and conduct surveys, if necessary. This information should be collected as early as possible in the design process, and certainly before lighting is designed, so as to avoid the need for costly revisions.

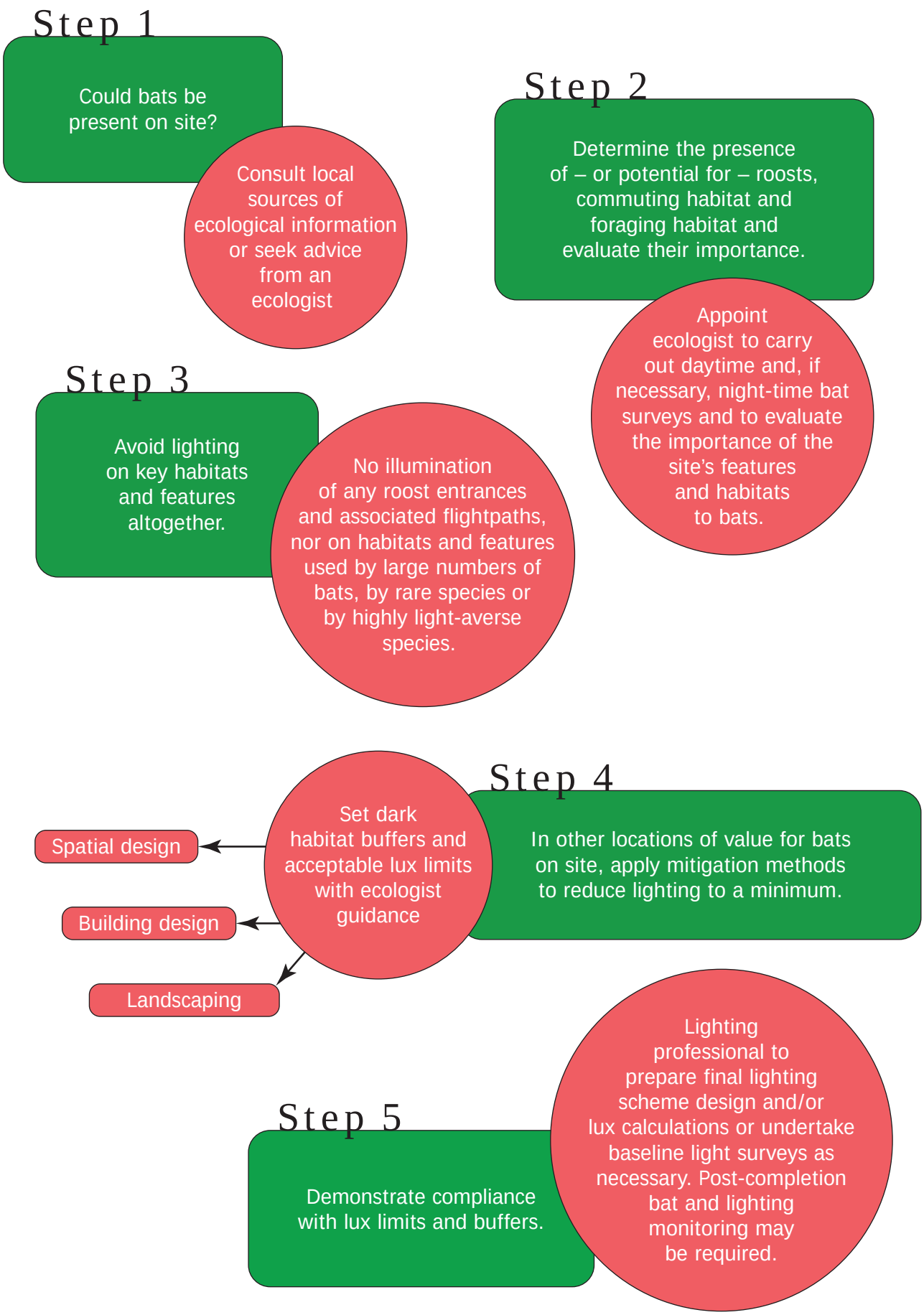
If any of the following habitats occur on site, and are adjacent to or connected with any of these habitats on or off site, it is possible that newly proposed lighting may impact local bat populations:

- Woodland or mature trees
- Hedgerows and scrub
- Ponds and lakes
- Ditches, streams, canals and rivers
- Infrequently managed grassland
- Buildings – pre 1970s or in disrepair

If you are unsure about whether bats may be impacted by your project, and an ecologist has not yet been consulted, sources of information on the presence of bats within the vicinity of your site include the following.

- Local environmental records centres (LERC) – Will provide third-party records of protected and notable species for a fee. Search http://www.alerc.org.uk/ for more information.
- National Biodiversity Network Atlas – Provides a resource of third-party ecological records searchable online at https://nbnatlas.org. Typically this is less complete than LERC data. Please note: Some datasets are only accessible on a non-commercial basis, while most can be used for any purpose, as long as the original source is credited.
- Local authority planning portals – Most local planning authorities have a searchable online facility detailing recent planning applications. These may have been accompanied by ecological survey reports containing information on bat roosts and habitats.
- Defra's MAGIC map – Provides an online searchable GIS database including details of recent European protected species licences and details of any protected sites designated for bat conservation.

The professional directory at the website of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (www.cieem.net) will provide details of ecologists in your area with the relevant


Step 1
Could bats be present on site?
Consult local sources of ecological information or seek advice from an ecologist
Step 2
Determine the presence of – or potential for – roosts, commuting habitat and foraging habitat and evaluate their importance.
Appoint ecologist to carry out daytime and, if necessary, night-time bat surveys and to evaluate the importance of the site's features and habitats to bats.
Step 3
Avoid lighting on key habitats and features altogether.
No illumination of any roost entrances and associated flightpaths, nor on habitats and features used by large numbers of bats, by rare species or by highly light-averse species.
Step 4
Set dark habitat buffers and acceptable lux limits with ecologist guidance
Spatial design
Building design
Landscaping
In other locations of value for bats on site, apply mitigation methods to reduce lighting to a minimum.
Step 5
Demonstrate compliance with lux limits and buffers.
Lighting professional to prepare final lighting scheme design and/or lux calculations or undertake baseline light surveys as necessary. Post-completion bat and lighting monitoring may be required.

skills/experience. The early involvement of a professional ecologist can minimise the likelihood of delays at the planning stage (if applicable) and ensure your project is compliant with conservation and planning legislation and policy.

It should be noted that the measures discussed in this document relate only to the specific impacts of lighting upon bat habitat features on or adjacent to the site. If loss or damage to roosting, foraging or commuting habitat is likely to be caused by other aspects of the development, separate ecological advice will be necessary in order to avoid, mitigate or compensate for this legally and according to the ecologist's evaluation.

Step 2: Determine the presence of – or potential for – roosts, commuting habitat and foraging habitat and evaluate their importance

Your ecologist will visit the site in order to record the habitats and features present and evaluate their potential importance to bats, and the likelihood that bats could be affected by lighting both on and immediately off site. This may also include daytime building and tree inspections. On the basis of these inspections further evening surveys may be recommended, either to determine the presence of roosts within buildings and/or trees or to assess the use of the habitats by bats by means of a walked survey. Such surveys may be undertaken at different times during the active season (ideally May to September) and should also involve the use of automated bat detectors left on site for a period of several days. The surveys should be carried out observing the recommendations within the Bat Conservation Trust's Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (Collins, 2016).

The resulting report will detail the relative conservation importance of each habitat feature to bats (including built structures, if suitable). The ecologist's evaluation of the individual features will depend on the specific combination of contributing factors about the site, including:

- The conservation status of species recorded or likely to be present
- Geographic location
- Type of bat activity likely (breeding, hibernating, night roosting, foraging etc)
- Habitat quality
- Habitat connectivity off-site
- The presence of nearby bat populations or protected sites for bats (usually identified in a desk study)

The evaluation of ecological importance for each feature is most commonly expressed on a geographic scale from Site level to International level, or alternatively in terms of that feature's role in maintaining the 'favourable conservation status' of the population of bats using it.

The ecologist should set out where any key bat roost features and/or habitat areas (ie flightpath habitat and broader areas of foraging habitat) lie on a plan of the site or as an ecological constraints and opportunities plan (ECOP) together with their relative importance. The ECOP and report can then be used to help guide the design of the lighting strategy as well as the wider project.

Step 3: Avoid lighting on key habitats and features altogether

As has been described in 'Artificial lighting', above, there is no legal duty requiring any place to be lit. British Standards and other policy documents allow for deviation from their own guidance where there are significant ecological/environmental reasons for doing so. It is acknowledged that in certain situations lighting is critical in maintaining safety, such as some industrial sites with 24-hour operation. However in the public realm, while lighting can increase the perception of safety and security, measureable benefits can be subjective. Consequently, lighting design should be flexible and be able to fully take into account the presence of protected species

and the obligation to avoid impacts on them.

Sources of lighting which can disturb bats are not limited to roadside or external security lighting, but can also include light spill via windows, permanent but sporadically operated lighting such as sports floodlighting, and in some cases car headlights. Additionally, glare (extremely high contrast between a source of light and the surrounding darkness – linked to the intensity of a luminaire) may affect bats over a greater distance than the target area directly illuminated by a luminaire and must also be considered on your site.

It is important that a competent lighting professional is involved in the design of proposals as soon as potential impacts (including from glare) are identified by the ecologist in order to avoid planning difficulties or late-stage design revision. Your lighting professional will be able to make recommendations about placement of luminaires tailored to your specific project.

Where highways lighting schemes are to be designed by the local planning authority (LPA) post-planning, an ecology officer should be consulted on the presence of important bat constraints which may impact the design and illuminance in order for the scheme to remain legally compliant with wildlife legislation.

Where adverse impacts upon the 'favourable conservation status' of the bat population using the feature or habitat would be significant, an absence of artificial illumination and glare, acting upon both the feature and an appropriately-sized buffer zone is likely to be the only acceptable solution. Your ecologist will be best placed to set the size of such a buffer zone but it should be sufficient to ensure that illumination and glare is avoided and so the input of a lighting professional may be required. Further information on demonstrating an absence of illumination via lux/illuminance contour plans is provided in Step 5.

Because different species vary in their response to light disturbance (as discussed in section 1 'Bats'), your ecologist will be able to provide advice tailored to the specific conditions on your project, however examples of where the no-lighting approach should be taken in particular include:

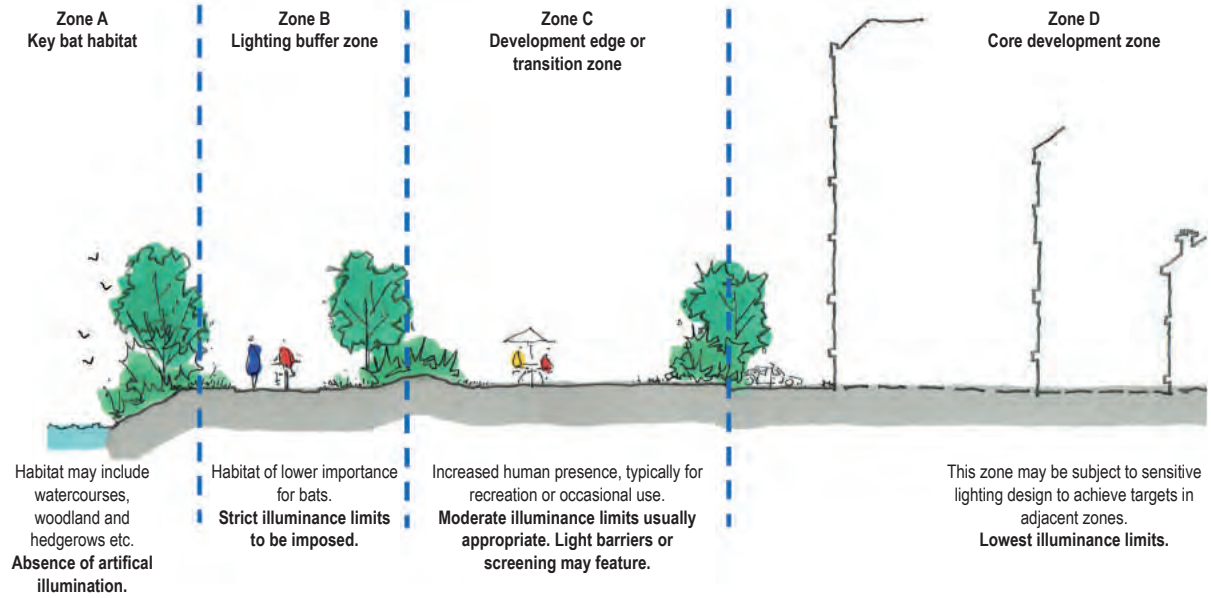
- Roosting and swarming sites for all species and their associated flightpath/commuting habitat.
- Foraging or commuting habitat for highly light-averse species (greater and lesser horseshoe bats, some Myotis bats, barbastelle bats and all long-eared bats).
- Foraging or commuting habitat used by large numbers of bats as assessed through survey.
- Foraging or commuting habitat for particularly rare species (grey long-eared bat, barbastelle, small Myotis, Bechstein's bat and horseshoe bats).
- Any habitat otherwise assessed by your ecologist as being of importance to maintaining the 'favourable conservation status' of the bat population using it.

Completely avoiding any lighting conflicts in the first place is advantageous because not only would proposals be automatically compliant with the relevant wildlife legislation and planning policy, but they could avoid costly and time-consuming additional surveys, mitigation and post-development monitoring. Furthermore, local planning authorities are likely to favour applications where steps have been taken to avoid such conflicts.

Step 4: Apply mitigation methods to reduce lighting to agreed limits in other sensitive locations – lighting design considerations

Where bat habitats and features are considered to be of lower importance or sensitivity to illumination, the need to provide lighting may outweigh the needs of bats. Consequently, a balance between a reduced lighting level appropriate to the

Example of illuminance limit zonation



ecological importance of each feature and species, and the lighting objectives for that area will need to be achieved.

It is important to reiterate the legal protection from disturbance that bats receive under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended. Where the risk of offences originating from lighting is sufficiently high, it may be best to apply the avoidance approach in Step 3.

Advice from an ecologist and lighting professional will be essential in finding the right approach for your site according to their evaluation. The following are techniques which have been successfully used on projects and are often used in combination for best results.

Dark buffers, illuminance limits and zonation

Dark buffer zones can be used as a good way to separate habitats or features from lighting by forming a dark perimeter around them. Buffer zones rely on ensuring light levels (levels of illuminance measured in lux) within a certain distance of a feature do not exceed certain defined limits. The buffer zone can be further subdivided in to zones of increasing illuminance limit radiating away from the feature. Examples of this application are given in the figure above.

Your ecologist (in collaboration with a lighting professional) can help determine the most appropriate buffer widths and illuminance limits according to the value of that habitat to bats (as informed by species and numbers of bats, as well as the type of use).

Appropriate luminaire specifications

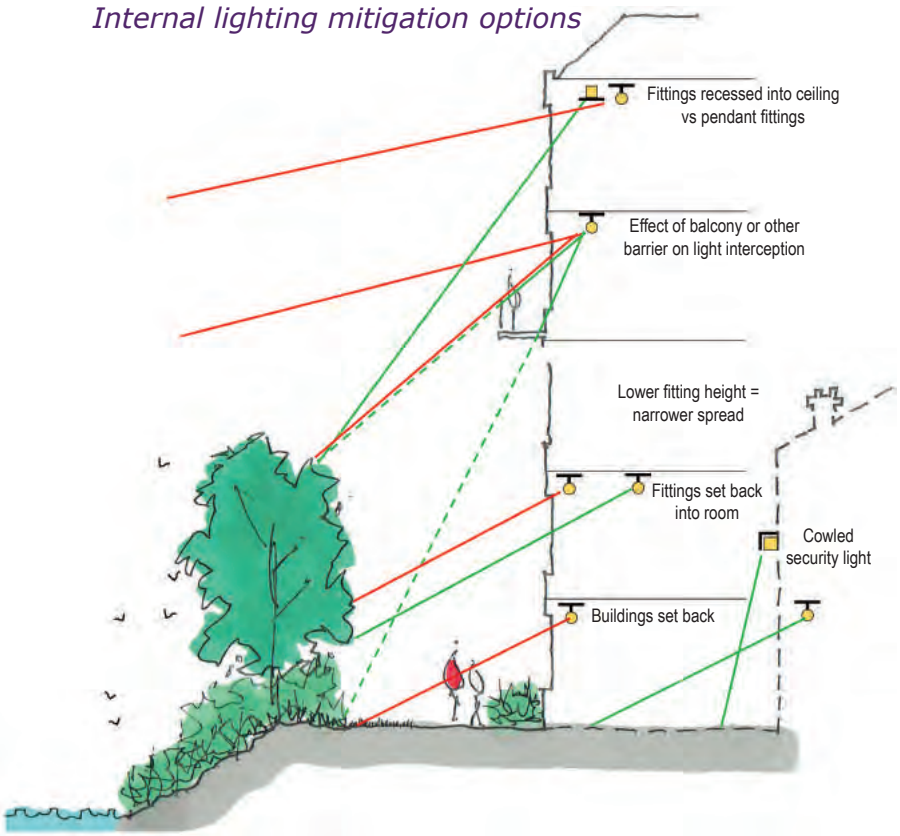
Luminaires come in a myriad of different styles, applications and specifications which a lighting professional can help to select. The following should be considered when choosing luminaires.

- All luminaires should lack UV elements when manufactured. Metal halide, fluorescent sources should not be used.
- LED luminaires should be used where possible due to their sharp cut-off, lower intensity, good colour rendition and dimming capability.
- A warm white spectrum (ideally <2700Kelvin) should be adopted to reduce blue light component.
- Luminaires should feature peak wavelengths higher than 550nm to avoid the component of light most disturbing to bats (Stone, 2012).
- Internal luminaires can be recessed where installed in proximity to windows to reduce glare and light spill. (See figure overleaf.)
- The use of specialist bollard or low-level downward directional luminaires to

retain darkness above can be considered. However, this often comes at a cost of unacceptable glare, poor illumination efficiency, a high upward light component and poor facial recognition, and their use should only be as directed by the lighting professional.

- Column heights should be carefully considered to minimise light spill.
- Only luminaires with an upward light ratio of 0% and with good optical control should be used – See ILP Guidance for the Reduction of Obtrusive Light.
- Luminaires should always be mounted on the horizontal, ie no upward tilt.
- Any external security lighting should be set on motion-sensors and short (1min) timers.
- As a last resort, accessories such as baffles, hoods or louvres can be used to reduce light spill and direct it only to where it is needed.

Internal lighting mitigation options



Sensitive site configuration

The location, orientation and height of newly built structures and hard standing can have a considerable impact on light spill (see figure above for examples of good internal lighting design). Small changes in terms of the placement of footpaths, open space and the number and size of windows can all achieve a good outcome in terms of minimising light spill on to key habitats and features.

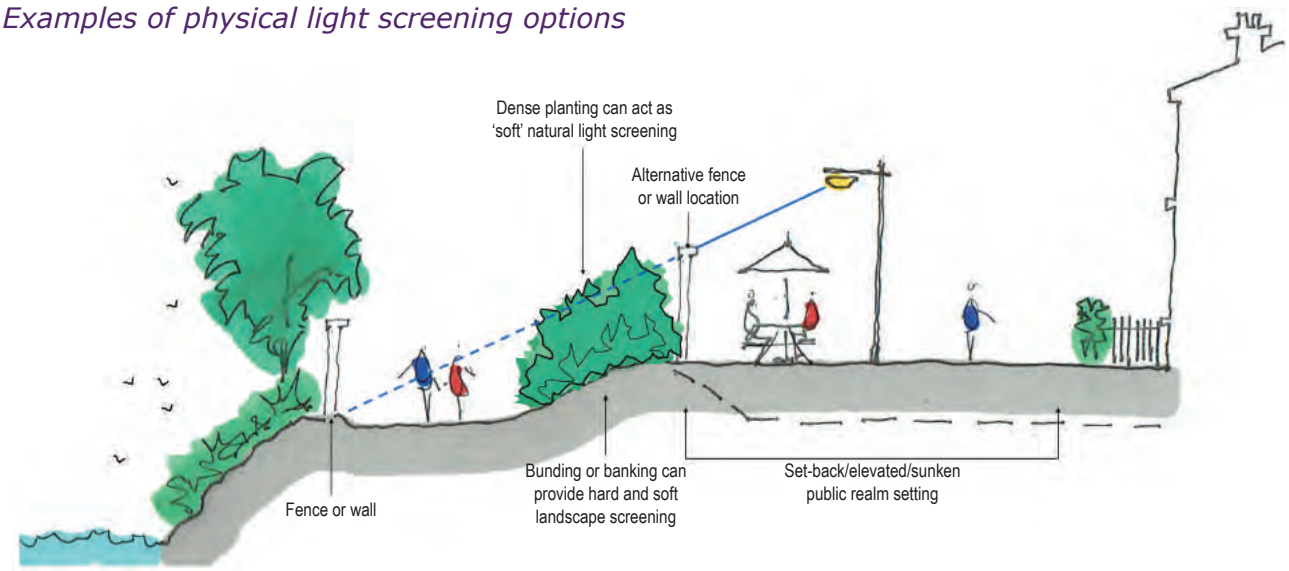
- It may be possible to include key habitats and features into unlit public open space such as parks and gardens.
- Buildings, walls and hard landscaping may be sited and designed so as to block light spill from reaching habitats and features.
- Taller buildings may be best located toward the centre of the site or sufficiently set back from key habitats to minimise light spill.
- Street lights can be located so that the rear shields are adjacent to habitats or optics selected that stop back light thereby directing light into the task area where needed.

Screening

Light spill can be successfully screened through soft landscaping and the installation of walls, fences and bunding (see figure overleaf for example of physical light-screening options). In order to ensure that fencing makes a long-term contribution, it is recommended that it is supported on concrete or metal posts. Fencing can also be over planted with hedgerow species or climbing plants to soften its appearance and provide a vegetated feature which bats can use for navigation or foraging.

The planting of substantial landscape features integrated to the wider network of green corridors such as hedgerows, woodland and scrub is encouraged by

Examples of physical light screening options



planning policy and would make a long-term positive contribution to the overall bat habitat connectivity and light attenuation. A landscape architect can be appointed to collaborate with your ecologist on maximising these natural light screening opportunities.

It should be noted that newly planted vegetation (trees, shrubs and scrub) is unlikely to adequately contribute to light attenuation on key habitats for a number of years until it is well established. Sufficient maintenance to achieve this is also likely to be required. Consequently, this approach is best suited to the planting of 'instant hedgerows' or other similarly dense or mature planting, including translocated vegetation. In some cases, it is appropriate to install temporary fencing or other barrier to provide the desired physical screening effects until the vegetation is determined to be sufficiently established.

Given the fact that planting may be removed, die back, or be inadequately replaced over time it should never be relied on as the sole means of attenuating light spill.

Glazing treatments

Glazing should be restricted or redesigned wherever the ecologist and lighting professional determine there is a likely significant effect upon key bat habitat and features. Where windows and glass facades etc cannot be avoided, low transmission glazing treatments may be a suitable option in achieving reduced illuminance targets.

Products available include retrofit window films and factory-tinted glazing. 'Smart glass', which can be set to automatically obscure on a timer during the hours of darkness, and automatic blinds can also be used but their longevity depends on regular maintenance and successful routine operation by the occupant, and should not be solely relied upon.

Depending on the height of the building and windows, and therefore predicted light spill, such glazing treatments may not be required on all storeys. This effect can be more accurately determined by a lighting professional.

Creation of alternative valuable bat habitat on site

The provision of new, additional or alternative bat flightpaths, commuting habitat or foraging habitat could result in appropriate compensation for any such habitat being lost to the development. Your ecologist will be able to suggest and design such alternative habitats although particular consideration as to its connectivity to other features, the species to be used, the lag time required for a habitat to sufficiently establish, and the provision for its ongoing protection and maintenance should be given.

Dimming and part-night lighting

Depending on the pattern of bat activity across the key features identified on site by your ecologist, it may be appropriate for an element of on-site lighting to be controlled either diurnally, seasonally or according to human activity. A control management system can be used to dim (typically to 25% or less) or turn off groups of lights when not in use.

It should be noted that these systems depend on regular maintenance and a long-term commitment for them to be successful. Additionally, part-night lighting should be designed with input from an ecologist as they may still produce unacceptably high light levels when active or dimmed. Part-night lighting is not usually appropriate where lights are undimmed during key bat activity times as derived from bat survey data. Research has indicated that impacts upon commuting bats are still prevalent where lighting is dimmed during the middle of the night at a time when illumination for human use is less necessary (Azam et al, 2015). Thus this approach should not always be seen as a solution unless backed up by robust ecological survey and assessment of nightly bat activity.

Step 5: Demonstrate compliance with illuminance limits and buffers

Design and pre-planning phase

It may be necessary to demonstrate that the proposed lighting will comply with any agreed light-limitation or screening measures set as a result of your ecologist's recommendations and evaluation. This is especially likely to be requested if planning permission is required.

A horizontal illuminance contour plan can be prepared by a suitably experienced and competent lighting professional (member of the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE), Society of Light and Lighting (SLL), Institution of Lighting Professionals (ILP) or similar to ensure competency) using an appropriate software package to model the extent of light spill from the proposed and, possibly, existing luminaires. The various buffer zone widths and illuminance limits which may have been agreed can then be overlaid to determine if any further mitigation is necessary. In some circumstances, a vertical illuminance contour plot may be necessary to demonstrate the light in sensitive areas such as entrances to roosts.

Such calculations and documentation would need to be prepared in advance of submission for planning permission to enable the LPA ecologist to fully assess impacts and compliance.

Because illuminance contour plots and plans may need to be understood and examined by non-lighting professionals such as architects and local planning authority ecologists, the following should be observed when producing or assessing illuminance contour plans to ensure the correct information is displayed.

- A horizontal calculation plane representing ground level should always be used.
- Vertical calculation planes should be used wherever appropriate, for example along the site-facing aspects of a hedgerow or façade of buildings containing roosts to show the illumination directly upon the vertical faces of the feature. Vertical planes can also show a cross-sectional view within open space. Vertical planes will enable a visualisation of the effects of illumination at the various heights at which different bat species fly.
- Models should include light from all luminaires and each should be set to the maximum output anticipated to be used in normal operation on site (ie no dimming where dimming is not anticipated during normal operation).
- A calculation showing output of luminaires to be expected at 'day 1' of operation should be included, where the luminaire and/or scheme Maintenance Factor is set to zero.

- Where dimming, PIR or variable illuminance states are to be used, an individual set of calculation results should accompany each of these states.
- The contours (and/or coloured numbers) for 0.2, 0.5, 1, 5, and 10 lux must be clearly shown as well as appropriate contours for values above these.
- Each contour plan should be accompanied by a table showing their minimum and maximum lux values.
- Where buildings are proposed in proximity to key features or habitats, plots should also model the contribution of light spill through nearby windows, making assumptions as to internal luminaire specification and transmissivity of windows. It should be assumed that blinds or curtains are absent or fully open although low-transmittance glazing treatments may be appropriate. Assumptions will need to be made as to the internal luminaire specification and levels of illuminance likely to occur on 'day 1' of operation. These assumptions should be clearly stated and guided by the building/room type and discussions between architect, client and lighting professional. It is acknowledged that in many circumstances, only a 'best effort' can be made in terms of accuracy of these calculations.
- Modelled plots should not include any light attenuation factor from new or existing planting due to the lag time between planting and establishment and the risk of damage, removal or failure of vegetation. This may result in difficulties in the long term achievement of the screening effect and hamper any post-construction compliance surveys.
- The illuminance contour plots should be accompanied by an explanatory note from the lighting professional to list where, in their opinion, sources of glare acting upon the key habitats and features may occur and what has been done/can be done to reduce their impacts.

N.B. It is acknowledged that, especially for vertical calculation planes, very low levels of light (<0.5 lux) may occur even at considerable distances from the source if there is little intervening attenuation. It is therefore very difficult to demonstrate 'complete darkness' or a 'complete absence of illumination' on vertical planes where some form of lighting is proposed on site despite efforts to reduce them as far as possible and where horizontal plane illuminance levels are zero. Consequently, where 'complete darkness' on a feature or buffer is required, it may be appropriate to consider this to be where illuminance is below 0.2 lux on the horizontal plane and below 0.4 lux on the vertical plane. These figures are still lower than what may be expected on a moonlit night and are in line with research findings for the illuminance found at hedgerows used by lesser horseshoe bats, a species well known for its light averse behaviour (Stone, 2012).

Baseline and post-completion light monitoring surveys

Baseline, pre-development lighting surveys may be useful where existing on- or off-site lighting is suspected to be acting on key habitats and features and so may prevent the agreed or modelled illuminance limits being achieved. This data can then be used to help isolate which luminaires might need to be removed, where screening should be implemented or establish a new illuminance limit reduced below existing levels. For example, where baseline surveys establish that on- and off-site lighting illuminates potential key habitat, improvements could be made by installing a tall perimeter fence adjacent to the habitat and alterations to the siting and specification of new lighting to avoid further illumination. Further information and techniques to deal with modeling pre-development lighting can be found in ILP publication PLG04 *Lighting Impact Assessments* due to be published late 2018.

Baseline lighting surveys must be carried out by a suitably qualified competent person. As a minimum, readings should be

taken at ground level on the horizontal plane (to give illuminance hitting the ground), and in at least one direction on the vertical plane at, for example, 1.5m or 2m above ground (to replicate the likely location of bats using the feature or site). The orientation should be perpendicular to the dominant light sources or perpendicular to the surface/edge of the feature in question (such as a wall or hedgerow) in order to produce a 'worst case' reading. Further measurements at other orientations may prove beneficial in capturing influence of all luminaires in proximity to the feature or principal directions of flight used by bats. This should be discussed with the ecologist.

Baseline measurements should be taken systematically across the site or features in question. That is, they will need to be repeated at intervals to sample across the site or feature, either in a grid or linear transect as appropriate. The lighting professional will be able to recommend the most appropriate grid spacing.

Measurements should always be taken in the absence of moonlight, either on nights of a new moon or heavy cloud to avoid artificially raising the baseline. As an alternative, moonlight can be measured at a place where no artificial light is likely to affect the reading.

As all proposed illuminance level contours will be produced from modelled luminaires at 100% output, baseline measurements need to be taken with all lights on and undimmed, with blinds or screens over windows removed. Cowls and other fittings on luminaires can remain in place.

Where possible, measurements should be taken during the spring and summer when vegetation is mostly in leaf, in order to accurately represent the baseline during the principal active season for bats and to avoid artificially raising the baseline.

The topography of the immediate surrounding landscape should be considered in order to determine the potential for increased or decreased light spill beyond the site.

Post-construction/operational phase compliance-checking

Post-completion lighting surveys are often required where planning permission has been obtained on the condition that the proposed lighting levels are checked to confirm they are in fact achieved on site and that the lighting specification (including luminaire heights, design and presence of shielding etc) is as proposed.

All lighting surveys should be conducted by a suitably qualified competent person and should be conducted using the same measurement criteria and lighting states used in the preparation of the illuminance contour plots and/or baseline surveys as discussed above. It may be necessary to conduct multiple repeats over different illumination states or other conditions specific to the project.

Results should always be reported to the LPA as per any such planning condition. A report should be prepared in order to provide an assessment of compliance by the lighting professional and a discussion of any remedial measures which are likely to be required in order to achieve compliance. Any limitations or notable conditions such as deviation from the desired lighting state or use of blinds/barriers should be clearly reported. Ongoing monitoring schedules can also be set, especially where compliance is contingent on automated lighting and dimming systems or on physical screening solutions.

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