HS Ecology
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Tumby Woodside
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PE22 7SP

Mr. Paul Barnsdale
Southview
Goxhill Avenue
Donington
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[redacted]

11th August 2022

Dear Paul,

Bat emergence survey – Building at Southview, Goxhill Avenue, Donington, Lincolnshire

Following our recent emergence survey and assessment of the above site, I am writing to confirm the results of the bat survey and to provide advice in respect of bat species which may be affected by the work at the site. The surveys were undertaken by a team of two led by Helen Scarborough (registered to use Natural England Class Licences WML-CL19 and WML-CL20 to survey bats; registration numbers 2015-12691-CLS-CLS and 2015-12692-CLS-CLS respectively).

The requirement for a precautionary survey was identified during a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of the site undertaken in March 2022. The building had low roost potential and a further evening survey for bats was recommended in order to comply with the 3rd edition Good Practice Survey Guidelines (Bat Conservation Trust, 2016).

Survey methods

An emergence survey carried out on the 26th July 2022. A team of two surveyors were positioned at strategic locations around the site in order to detect bats emerging from the building.

Conditions were suitable for carrying out such a survey with temperatures of 22 degrees, still and dry.

A Pettersson D-240x time expansion detector, a Bat-box heterodyne detector and an Anabat walkabout full spectrum detector were used to assist the survey, and detections were recorded for later analysis using BatSound 4.2.1 software.

Survey results

The daylight assessment results can be found in the PEA report dated March 2022.

During the evening emergence survey single passes of common pipistrelle bat *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* and a Myotis species (probably Daubenton's) were noted in the garden of Southview. No bats were noted emerging from the survey building.

Legal protection

In England, Scotland and Wales, all bats are strictly protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (and as amended); in England and Wales this legislation has been amended and strengthened by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000.

Bats are also protected by European legislation; the EC Habitats Directive is transposed into UK law by The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 – often referred to as 'The Habitat Regs'.

Taken together, all this legislation makes it an offence to:

- Deliberately capture (or take), injure or kill a bat
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb a group of bats where the disturbance is likely to significantly affect the ability of the animals to survive, breed, or nurture their young or likely to significantly affect the local distribution or abundance of the species whether in a roost or not
- Damage or destroy the breeding or resting place of a bat
- Possess a bat (alive or dead) or any part of a bat
- Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to a bat roost
- Sell (or offer for sale) or exchange bats (alive or dead) or parts of bats

A roost is defined as being 'any structure or place that is used for shelter or protection', and since bats regularly move roost site throughout the year, a roost retains such designation whether or not bats are present at the time.

Recommendations

The survey results indicate that the building does not support a long term, significant bat roost. No further surveys or mitigation is required.

As a positive enhancement, tree mounted bat boxes could be erected on the mature trees located within the gardens of Southview. Further information relating to specifications and installation of bat boxes can be provided on request.

I hope this provides all the information you require, however if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours Sincerely

Helen Scarborough