

Nick Willock
Robert Halstead Chartered Surveyors & Town Planners
57 Bowers Mill
Barkisland
Halifax
HX4 0AD

30th November 2016

Our ref: 896

Dear Nick,

RE: Bat Survey of Culvert

– Land at Huddersfield Road, Thongsbridge.

INTRODUCTION

This document presents the results of a monitoring survey for bats at the proposed development site at Huddersfield Road, Thongsbridge. These surveys follow on from recommendations made within the ecological appraisal of the site completed in October 2016. It is advised to read the report of the ecological appraisal for background and context¹. The report advised that further information was required to define the presence / absence of bats within the adjacent culvert

METHODS

Bats – Activity Monitoring

The ecological appraisal identified a square shaped culvert located immediately adjacent to the site. The culvert measures approximately 1 metre in height and 1 metre in width. The top of the culvert is sagging and was not accessed but appeared to contain gaps which may be suitable for use by bats. Culverts do present suitable hibernation sites for bats. The minimal height and width of this particular culvert restricts the suitability for use by bats; however, it was recommended to provide robust evidence to define the presence / absence of a roost.

A static monitoring detector (Model: Anabat express) was deployed within the culvert to monitor any bat activity. The detector was deployed on 8th November until 25th November 2016 (17 nights total). Any bat calls were analysed using Analook software V4.2.

¹ Land off Huddersfield Road, Thongsbridge – Ecological Appraisal (Nov 2016 – Quants Environmental).



RESULTS

Bats

No bat activity was recorded throughout the duration of the static detector deployment. The weather in November was variable and it is considered that the monitoring period was sufficient to detect bat activity should the culvert be used as a bat roost.

EVALUATION & RECOMMENDATIONS

Bats

The potential for use of the culvert by bats was deemed low, largely due to the (small) dimensions and no evidence of the use of the culvert was recorded throughout the monitoring period. It is therefore recommended that sufficient information has been gathered to confirm that the culvert is not a bat roost and bats do not present a constraint to any works which may affect the culvert.

I trust the above provides the application with sufficient information regarding these ecological considerations but please do contact me should you require anything further.

Yours sincerely,

Ryan Knight BSc (Hons) MCIEEM
Senior Ecologist
QUANTS environmental Ltd

