



## **Bat Emergence Survey**

Properties adjacent to  
land at Chidswell, Dewsbury

Report reference: R-3280-11  
August 2018

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Report Title:	Bat Emergence Survey Properties adjacent to land at Chidswell, Dewsbury
Report Reference:	R-3280-11
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## Summary Statement

Following emergence survey work it is concluded that the properties are very unlikely to support roosting bats and that further survey effort is not required in support of this conclusion.

## Introduction

1. Subsequent to the recommendations made in Brooks Ecological Ltd's Bat Roost Suitability Assessment (R-3280-10), detailed bat survey was commissioned at three properties at Chidswell, Dewsbury.
2. Information relating to local and legal status is provided in report R-3280-10 and is not repeated here. These two reports should be read together.

## Method

3. Brooks Ecological Ltd specialise in bat surveys ranging from individual buildings through to complex sites requiring numerous visits with large teams. In terms of the survey effort, number of personnel and number of visits required to be able to properly evaluate the building(s) use by bats we refer to the Bat Conservation Trust, Survey Good Practice Guidelines (2016). However, these guidelines are not prescriptive and we approach each site individually as required using our professional judgement and significant experience base.
4. In this case, each property was visited on one occasion with a team of two surveyors, which was deemed sufficient to fully evaluate the potential use of these properties for roosting. Surveyors were positioned at suitable locations around the buildings to cover all aspects where bats could potentially emerge, and to establish activity levels around the site.
5. The surveyors, using heterodyne detectors, were in place at least half an hour before dusk and left once all species of bat would be expected to have left a roost and patterns of activity within the site had been appraised. Survey details are summarised in Table 1 below:

**Table 1** Survey summary.

Survey Location & Date	Temperature Start/End	Weather	Invertebrate Activity
<b>1062 Leeds Road</b> 14.08.18	19°C / 19°C	90% cloud cover, humid, 7mph wind speed.	Moderate
<b>1012 Leeds Road</b> 15.08.18	18°C / 18°C	60% Cloud cover, humid, 15mph wind speed.	Low
<b>97 Chidswell Lane</b> 16.08.18	16°C / 14°C	30% cloud cover, dry, 11mph wind speed.	Low

## Results

### 1062 Leeds Road – 14<sup>th</sup> August 2018

6. The first bat seen was a common pipistrelle at 20:48, 10 minutes after sunset. This bat was clearly seen to enter the site from the northern boundary. It commuted through the site flying south. The same flight path was then repeated at 20:56, again by a single common pipistrelle and this was seen to forage on Site before flying south off-site.
7. A single common pipistrelle was also seen flying from south of the Site commuting north along the eastern edge of the building at 21:07. After this time, two bats were seen to forage occasionally around the Site.
8. No bats were seen to emerge from the surveyed building.

### 1012 Leeds Road – 15<sup>th</sup> August 2018

9. Bat activity was very limited, with only two common pipistrelles being heard (not seen) north of the Site at 21:26 and 21:32.
10. At no point were any bats seen or suspected to emerge from the surveyed building.

### 97 Chidswell Lane – 16<sup>th</sup> August 2018

11. The first bat seen was a common pipistrelle at 20:47, 13 minutes after sunset. This was clearly seen to arrive on Site from the west and foraged over the trees at the east of the building until 20:59.
12. Two common pipistrelles were then seen foraging around the gardens to the north east of the building from 20:59 until 21:15. A common pipistrelle was then heard (not seen) at 21:30, concluding bat activity during the survey.
13. At no point were any bats seen or suspected to emerge from the surveyed building.

## Evaluation and Recommendations

14. Following emergence survey work it is concluded that the properties are very unlikely to support roosting bats and that further survey effort is not required in support of this conclusion.
15. The proposed works can proceed with little risk of impacting on roosting bats.

### *General advice*

16. Even where surveys have been carried out which demonstrate absence of roosting, site workers should always be aware that bats can move into buildings previously found not to support them. On this basis work should proceed with care and if a bat is found during the proposed demolition, works should stop immediately, and a professional ecologist should be contacted.

## References

Bat Conservation Trust (2016) Bat Surveys For Professional Ecologists – Good Practice Guidelines

English Nature (2004) Bat Mitigation Guidelines. English Nature, Peterborough.

JNCC (2004) The Bat Workers Manual. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition.

ODPM circular 06/05 (2005) Biodiversity and Geological Conservation - Statutory Obligations and Their Impact Within the Planning System  
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Stone, E.L. (2013) Bats and Lighting. Overview of current evidence and mitigation