

1 Leeds Road,
Birstall, Batley

Dusk Emergence Bat Survey

May 2021

Report reference	1403b
Revision	1
Prepared by	Morgane Accault ACIEEM
Approved by	Toby Fisher CEnv MCIEEM
Issue date	Rev 1. 28 th May 2021

This report is valid for a period of 12 months from the issue date.

Contents

1	Introduction	4
2	Methodology	6
2.1	Personnel	6
2.2	Dusk Emergence Bat Survey	6
2.3	Limitations	6
3	Results	7
3.1	Dusk Emergence Survey Results	7
4	Conclusions and Recommendations	8
4.1	Bats	8
	Appendix 1. Legislation and Conservation Context	9

1 Introduction

1.1.1.1 This report presents the results of a dusk emergence bat survey undertaken at 1 Leeds Road, Birstall, Batley WF17 0EW. The study area (see Figure 1) extends to approximately 0.4 hectares and is centred at approximate grid reference SE22702622. This report should be read in conjunction with the following document:

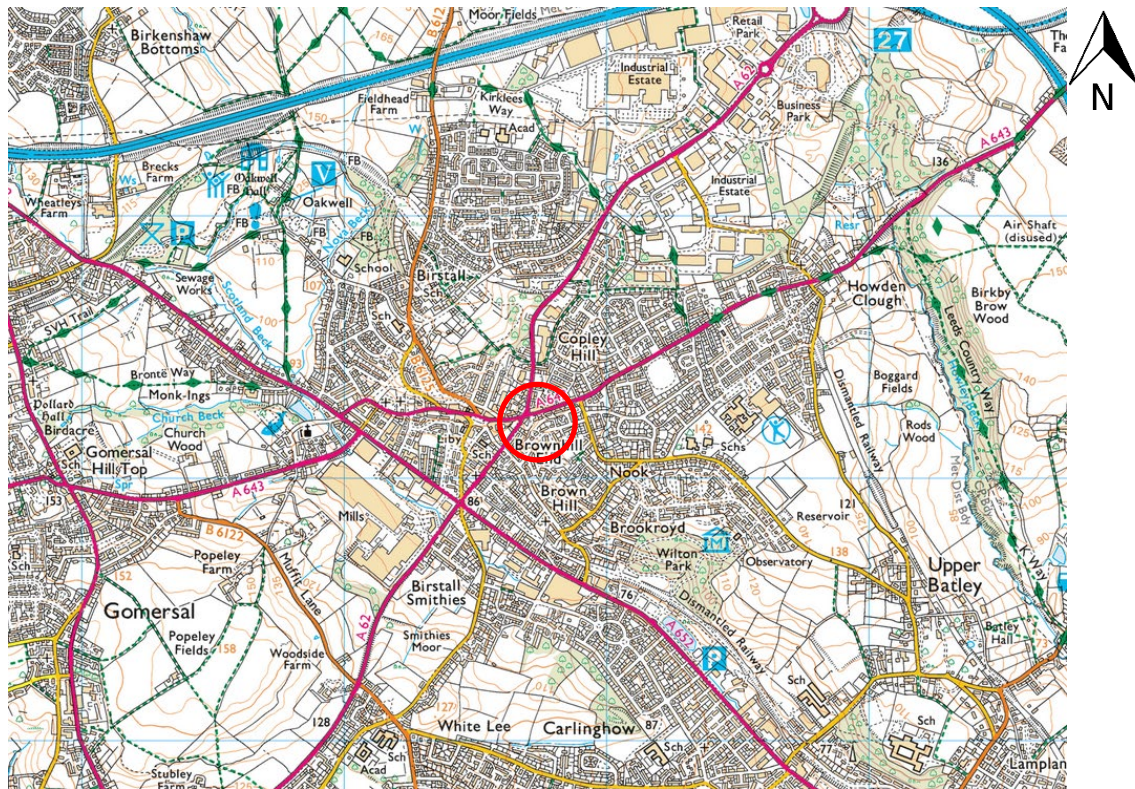
- Quants Environmental Ltd. (2020). 1 Leeds Road, Birstall, Batley. Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, May 2020. Ref. 1403.

1.1.1.2 Further to recommendations made in the above report, the aim of this survey was to determine the likely presence/absence of bat roosts at the site via a dusk emergence bat survey and to provide recommendations for mitigation and/or further work if required. Based on the classification of the buildings as having 'low' bat roost potential, a dusk emergence bat survey was undertaken on 24th May 2021.

Figure 1. Site area outlined red (aerial imagery dated 2015)



Figure 2. Site location



© Crown copyright and database rights (2019) OS licence no. 100060036.

2 Methodology

2.1 Personnel

2.1.1.1 The dusk emergence survey was undertaken by Morgane Accault ACIEEM and Maxwell Caulton.

2.2 Dusk Emergence Bat Survey

2.2.1.1 A dusk emergence bat survey was undertaken on 24th May 2021. Two surveyors were positioned to the south-east of the western building (Building 1) and to the north-east of the eastern building (Building 2) which provided sufficient coverage of all potential bat roost feature emergence points potentially affected by the proposed development.

2.2.1.2 The surveyors used Echo Meter Touch 2 Pro bat detectors. The dusk emergence survey conditions are summarised in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Dusk emergence bat survey conditions

Date	24 th May 2021
Sunset	21:16
Survey duration	21:00 – 22:26
Weather conditions	Dry: 11°C – 10°C, cloud cover 10%, wind Bft 2-3.
Surveyors	Morgane Accault, Maxwell Caulton

2.3 Limitations

2.3.1.1 The surveys were conducted in suitable weather conditions during the main bat survey season (May to August/September inclusive). Overall, there were no significant limitations.

3 Results

3.1 *Dusk Emergence Survey Results*

3.1.1.1 The results of the dusk emergence survey are summarised in Tables 2 and 3. No bat roosts were identified during the survey. One species, common pipistrelle, was heard but not seen during the survey.

Table 2. Dusk emergence survey results – Building 1 – 24th May 2021

Time	Species and notes
21:00 – 22:26	No activity

Table 3. Dusk emergence survey results – Building 2 – 24th May 2021

Time	Species and notes
21:00 – 21:53	No activity
21:53	1x common pipistrelle pass unseen

4 Conclusions and Recommendations

4.1 *Bats*

- 4.1.1.1 No evidence of bats was observed during the scoping / inspection survey on the 23rd September 2020.
- 4.1.1.2 The only previous bat records within 500 metres of the site relate to a grounded pipistrelle bat at 33 Carr Street approximately 300 metres south-west of the site.
- 4.1.1.3 During the dusk emergence survey on the 24th May 2021 there was no evidence of a bat roost in the surveyed buildings and it is therefore concluded that the buildings do not support a bat roost (confidence level: high). During the dusk survey, it was noted that disturbance levels from lighting and road traffic were high at the site.
- 4.1.1.4 No further bat surveys or mitigation measures are therefore considered necessary.

Appendix 1. Legislation and Conservation Context

European Protected Species (GCN, Otter, all Bats)

GCN, otter and all British bat species are fully protected through The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 as European Protected Species (EPS). They also receive some protection through inclusion in Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Under the legislation, it is an offence to deliberately capture, injure or kill a GCN, otter or bat. It is an offence to damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of a GCN, otter or bat. It is also an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb a GCN, otter or bat while it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for shelter or protection; or obstruct access to any structure or place which it uses for that purpose.

It is also an offence to deliberately disturb a GCN, otter or bat; in particular any disturbance which is likely (a) to impair their ability - (i) to survive, to breed or reproduce, or to rear or nurture their young, or (ii) in the case of animals of a hibernating or migratory species, to hibernate or migrate; or (b) to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they belong.

The 'appropriate authority' (Natural England in England) has powers to issue licences for various purposes including - (a) scientific or educational purposes... and (e) preserving public health or public safety or other imperative reasons of overriding public interest including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment. The appropriate authority shall not grant a licence under this regulation unless they are satisfied - (a) that there is no satisfactory alternative, and (b) that the action authorised will not be detrimental to the maintenance of the population of the species concerned at a favourable conservation status in their natural range. It is an offence for any person authorised by virtue of a licence to which this paragraph applies to contravene or fail to comply with any condition which the licence requires him to comply with.