

Consultation Response from KC, Ecology Unit
2023/91441 31, Chapel Hill, Linthwaite, Huddersfield, HD7 5NJ
Change of use and alterations to former church (B8-storage) to 9 residential units (C3) and formation of car park (Listed Building within a Conservation Area)
Date Responded: 05/10/2023 Responding Officer: Gareth Hey Responding Ref:

Following on from my previous comments, an updated bat survey report has been submitted with the application.

The building has been assessed as being of low interest to bats and, consequently, there is no requirement for any mitigation licence. The single activity survey established that bats are not using the building but are present in the area and do forage around the site and use the site for commuting to other feeding areas.

The report recommends that given that bats are using the site, permanent roosting features should be included in the final scheme, these include:

- Inclusion of at least three Schwegler 1FTH summer roosting boxes to the south elevation of the chapel and placed high up at the eaves. These can be added before roofing scaffold is dismantled.
- At least one Schwegler bat winter roost 1WQ should be added to the north elevation high up at the eaves. This will provide insulated winter roosting opportunities for bats.

Given the above, I have no objection to this application. However, the following condition to ensure the above roosting features are incorporated into the design is recommended.

1. Prior to the commencement of development, a plan detailing the positioning, location and specification of four bat roosting features (including three summer roosting boxes and one winter roost box) on or integral to the south and north elevation shall be submitted to and approved in writing to the local authority. The bat boxes shall be installed to the manufacturers specification and retained thereafter as detailed in the approved plans.

Reason: To provide an enhancement to biodiversity in line with LP30 and the requirements of Chapter 15 of the National Planning Policy Framework.