

# Site Inspection Report

Main Avenue, Kirklees



<b>Site Inspection reference</b>	SI-7172-01	<b>Date of inspection</b>	08/12/2025								
<b>Inspected by</b>	David Lovett MBiolSci (Hons) ACIEEM Ecologist										
<b>Task description</b>	<p>Following advice set out in the Site's Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, further, detailed ground-based survey to assess for potential roost features (PRFs) within trees to be removed was carried out.</p> <p>Information relating to the Site's location and value to foraging and commuting bats, the location of nearby bat records and the further assessment of potential roost features, is presented in the PEA and Bat Activity report and not repeated here; these reports should be read in conjunction for full context.</p>										
<b>Report</b>	<p>All trees highlighted as requiring removal as per the sites Arboricultural Report and Impact Assessment, Proposed Site Layout and Landscape Masterplan were subject to inspection.</p> <p>The impacted trees ranged in age from young to mature specimens and were made up of a variety of broad-leaf species.</p> <p>A ground-based inspection using a high-powered torch and binoculars where necessary was carried out on 08/12/2025. All trees to be removed were surveyed and categorised according to Bat Survey Guidelines (BCT, 2023). Most recent guidelines categorise trees based on three levels of suitability, as detailed in Table 1 below.</p> <p><b>Table 1</b> Bat Roosting Suitability of Trees.</p> <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Suitability</th><th>Criteria</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Negligible</td><td>No obvious habitat features on site likely to be used by roosting bats; however, a small element of uncertainty remains as bats can use small and apparently unsuitable features on occasion.</td></tr><tr><td>PRF-I</td><td>PRF is only suitable for individual bats or very small numbers of bats either due to size or lack of suitable surrounding habitats.</td></tr><tr><td>PRF-M</td><td>PRF is suitable for multiple bats and may therefore be used by a maternity colony.</td></tr></tbody></table>			Suitability	Criteria	Negligible	No obvious habitat features on site likely to be used by roosting bats; however, a small element of uncertainty remains as bats can use small and apparently unsuitable features on occasion.	PRF-I	PRF is only suitable for individual bats or very small numbers of bats either due to size or lack of suitable surrounding habitats.	PRF-M	PRF is suitable for multiple bats and may therefore be used by a maternity colony.
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	<p>The ground-based survey did not highlight any trees with features of PRF-M or PRF-I. This was based on a few factors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Many trees were of a small size, with thin trunks and branches, and not of an age where PRFs will have generally formed.</li><li>• Ivy and similar climbing plants are largely absent from the Site and so could not form PRFs by growing over larger trees.</li><li>• More mature trees were still found to be in good condition, with very few potentially significant PRFs such as split/missing limbs, tear outs or rot holes. Where damage was noted on trees, the cracked limbs and missing bark did not support gaps or crevices that could be used by bats.</li></ul>
<b>Summary</b>	All trees surveyed are classed as providing negligible suitability for roosting bats, due to their age, size and overall condition.
<b>Further actions</b>	<p>In line with guidance, no further survey is considered necessary to ascertain the status of roosting bats within trees of negligible roost suitability (no further survey is required even for trees of PRF-I).</p> <p>Removal of trees is scheduled to begin in February 2026.</p> <p>Given the findings of the ground-based assessment, it is concluded that vegetation removal poses minimal risk of impacting on roosting bats.</p>
<b>Photo 1</b>  Example of young trees not of the size to support PRFs	

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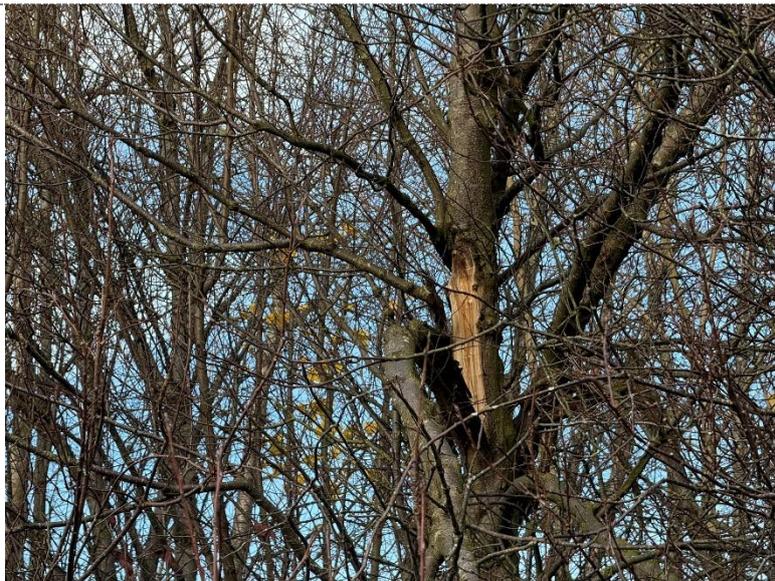
## Photo 2

Example of a semi-mature tree in good condition, with negligible PRF



## Photo 3

Example of a tree with recent damage, but no clear PRF has formed as a result



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## Photo 4

Example of a semi-mature tree with a split trunk. Close inspection found no gaps or crevices extending further into the trunk, with only the main cavity exposed.



## Photo 5

Example of a tree with missing bark, but with no associated PRFs



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## Photo 6

General view of trees on-Site



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