

Bats – Method Statement template to support a licence application

The Method Statement will be used to determine the impact of the proposal on the favourable conservation status (FCS) of the species concerned (Regulation 55(9)(b)).

You are strongly advised to refer to the Bat Mitigation Guidelines.

Please use recent photographs to support your application.

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Natural England
Horizon House
Deanery Road
Bristol
BS1 5AH.
T. 020802 61089

Important advice:

The format below must be used. Please enter text below each heading keeping information as concise as possible.

All maps/figures that will become part of any annexed licence granted must be submitted as separate documents (with the site name and date included on the map/figure. See section I for list – all others may be included within the Method Statement document (e.g. survey maps/figures) if preferred).

A separate work schedule must also be submitted on form WML-A13a-E5a&b to accompany the Method Statement.

A Executive summary

Provide an overview (no more than 1 side of A4) of what works are proposed and how the impacts identified will be addressed in order to ensure no detriment to the maintenance of the population at a favourable conservation status.

The proposed development at former public house The Biddulph Arms, 171 Congleton Road, Biddulph, Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire ST8 6JQ (NGR: SJ 88778 58510). Considered to be a single-phase, small-scale development within existing footprint, the development will involve conversion of the existing public house (B1) to 8 residential units and conversion of an existing building (B2) into 1 residential unit, including associated access, refuse storage and landscape works. The development of both buildings will be carried out in unison.

In the absence of mitigation, the development is likely to result in an offence under Regulation 41, whereby the

- 1) Temporary disturbance of common pipistrelle summer day roost (N<5) during the conversion of buildings B1 and B2.
- 2) Temporary disturbance of a brown long-eared bat summer day roost (N<2 /UKBAP species) during the conversion of building B1.

In order to successfully maintain and ensure the 'FCS' of the species onsite, the following licence methods are requested.

- 1) Retention and maintenance of the existing roof structure, repairing tiles/new fascia/soffits, etc.
- 2) Repair to damaged internal ceilings where they have been affected by water ingress/damage.
- 3) Use of standard capture and exclusion methods by a Named Ecologist (by hand or by static net), in the event that individual bats are discovered during works.

Prior to any works commencing, 3 permanent bat boxes will be installed: A 1WQ Schwegler on the south-west gable end of B1 (which will also act as a receptor site during supervision works), and a Vincent Pro bat box on the north side of B1 (suitable for brown long-eared in addition to other bat species). A bat box will also be fitted onto the north-west gable end of B2 (Beaumaris Woodstone).

No major roofing works is proposed. Some remedial work to the roof is intended around an existing skylight region (see Appendix). All existing roost ingress points will be retained.

Repairs to the existing water damaged ceiling areas (B1) will create a permanent and secluded loft void with a total cubic volume of 273m³.

Additional raised or vented ridge tiles will be installed across the roofs of B1 and B2 to create additional roosting features: 4no. on Building B1 (as per Natural England detail 4B) to allow access into existing loft region / and 3no. on Building B2 (as per Natural England detail 4B / to allow access into a newly created apex box region.

The roofs will retain existing bitumen type felt F1. No modern breathable roofing membranes are to be used during the development.

B Introduction

B1 Background to activity/development:

Include a brief summary of:

- Why the activity and a licence are necessary (*e.g. bridge structure repairs are required and will affect a known maternity roost of Daubenton's bats, which will be temporarily lost whilst works are being undertaken; renovation works to an office building will result in the permanent loss of three day roosts of common pipistrelle bats; demolition of an existing hospital to be replaced with flats will result in the loss of a brown-long eared bat maternity roost*).

Full planning consent has been obtained from Staffordshire Moorlands District Council for the conversion of a former public house into 8 residential units, and a single outbuilding (former coach house) into 1 residential unit at The Biddulph Arms, 171 Congleton Road, Biddulph, Stoke on Trent ST8 6JQ (NGR: SJ 88778 58510).

Planning consent ref: SMD/2020/0049 – See Folder 5, supporting information). In the absence of mitigation on both buildings B1 and B2, the development will result in disturbance and potential loss of a summer day roost for common pipistrelle (N<5) and a summer day roost for brown long-eared bats (N<2).

- Include current status of planning permission (if applicable) *e.g. full planning permission with all relevant wildlife conditions discharged; permitted development; demolition with prior notification of demolition issues resolved*. If the proposal is for demolition only of a structure supporting a bat roost/s, please confirm whether there are plans to develop the site in the future and if so when.

Full planning permission approved ref: SND/2020/0049 (see folder 5, Supporting information).

B2 Relationship with other nearby development and cumulative impacts

B2.1 Is the current application part of a larger development project? For example, is it part of a phased or multi-plot housing development that will require more than one bat licence? Enter Yes, No or N/A in the text box below. If yes, note a separate **master plan** document will be required.

No

Important Advice: If yes to the above, please note that sections in this Method Statement on impact assessment and mitigation measures must explicitly relate *only* to impacts from the works currently proposed.

A project-wide master plan must detail the overall impact assessment and mitigation and explain where, and why, each of the bat licences will be required. The master plan must be included as a separate document to this application: see http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/WML-G11_tcm6-9930.pdf for details that are to be included in this separate document. The separate master plan is expected to take due regard of the overall project to ensure that in-combination effects are considered, and mitigation and compensation measures are both sufficient and coherent.

If the current development is part of a larger development project, summarise very briefly here how the current application relates to the larger project and how the in-combination effects are considered and mitigation/compensation is sufficient.

N/A

Important Advice: to accompany this Method Statement also include Figure. B2.1 for a Master plan overview - and see section I "Map checklist" at the end of this document.

B2.2 Apart from any mention in B2.1, please inform us of any past or future development or other projects (in the last 5 years or next 5 years) in the vicinity which may have significantly impacted or are likely to significantly impact on the same population/s of bats as this application (e.g. loss of maternity or hibernation roosts). You must make reasonable efforts to establish this, including discussions with your client and the Local Planning Authority – stating below what you undertook. A brief summary of the project/s should be provided including the site name and location, dates and if known the licence reference number(s).

Please note we are not expecting details of every licence/planning permission issued within the vicinity of the site – we are only concerned with projects that have the potential to significantly impact or have impacted on same population of bats (maternity and hibernation roosts). Note: Natural England is aiming to make available licensing records from the last 5 years publically available.

N/A

Important Advice: locations of other bat mitigation sites that may have significantly impacted or are likely to significantly impact on the same population/s of bats as this application must be shown on Figure B2.2.

C Survey and site assessment (also see section 5 of the Bat Mitigation Guidelines)

C1 Pre-existing information on the bat species at the survey site:

Please undertake a historical data search within a 2km search radius and provide a summary of the results of this search. For example, records from local environmental records centres, local bat groups and previous survey work undertaken at the site is all relevant. Please briefly comment on the results in relation to your project/site

- Should no historical records be found from your search please state this – and specify what searches you undertook.
- Note that you must not include records from National Biodiversity Network (NBN) without first obtaining written permission from the relevant Data Provider.

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust (SWT) show 11 of the 17 resident UK bat species occur in the county, with seven species currently given UK BAP (2007) Priority Status.

A search using the MAGIC website returned three European Protected Species Mitigation licences for bats within 2km of The Biddulph Arms which are summarised below:

- A licence (reference no. EPSM2012-5072) issued from 31/10/2012 to 30/09/2016, allowing for the impact and destruction of a common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) breeding site and resting place, approximately 450m east;
- A licence (reference no. 2017-31457-EPS-MIT) issued from 08/11/2017 to 02/11/2022, allowing for the destruction of a common pipistrelle resting place, approximately 950m south; and
- A licence (reference no. EPSM2011-3372) issued from 06/09/2011 to 30/09/2013, allowing for the destruction of a brown long-eared bat (*Plecotus auritus*) and Natterer's bat (*Myotis nattereri*) resting place, approximately 1.27km north.

C2 Status of the bat species: Detail conservation status at the local, county and regional levels. Please complete the following table, justifying your assessment, and add additional lines where necessary. If the status is unknown then please enter 'unknown'.

Species	Conservation status assessment		
	Local	County	Regional
Common pipistrelle <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Common & widespread	Common & widespread and of least concern	Common & widespread and of least concern
Brown long-eared <i>Plecotus auritus</i>	Common & widespread (UK BAP species)	Common & widespread (UK BAP species)	Common & widespread (UK BAP species)

****Please note** that you can add more rows to the table: right click in any cell choose Insert > Insert rows below.

C3 Objectives of the survey to inform this proposal: Please complete the following table, entering 'Yes', 'No' or N/A' to indicate the objective of your survey and provide comments/explanation where necessary:

Survey objective	Yes / No / N-A	Comments
Determine presence / absence of bats	Yes	Phase 2 activity surveys were carried out between 21/07/20 / 10/08/2020 (2 x dusk) and 01/09/20 (1 x dawn) by Absolute Ecology) Two revised activity surveys were carried out 27/05/2021 (1 dusk) and 16/06/2021 (1 x dawn) by Charnia Ecology to support licence application)
Determine bat usage of site (e.g. maternity, hibernation, night roosts in various structures (specify)).	Yes	COMMON PIPISTRELLE: Small aggregated summer day roost in both buildings B1 and B2 (N5). BROWN LONG EARED: Small summer day roost in building B1 (N2)
Identify foraging, commuting or swarming sites (explain)	Yes	Individual and generalist foraging and commuting recorded around the site. 2 x Species recorded: Common pipistrelle and brown long-eared bats. The site is located within close proximity to areas of high value foraging including Biddulph Brook.
Other (explain)	N/A	

C4 Site/habitat description: Please provide:

- Brief descriptions of the site, including total size of the development site (ha) (most often within the red line planning boundary) and areas of the site with potential value to bats (ha).

The Biddulph Arms and Coach House 171, Congleton Road, Biddulph, Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire ST8 6JQ. [NGR: SJ 88778 58510].

The site comprises of a former public house (B1), and a former Coach House (B2) used as a garage/storage space. Both buildings stand on an area of hard-standing / tarmac used chiefly as a car parking area. Total site area = 0.1175ha, with ca. 0.037ha of building coverage onsite as having value for roosting bats (buildings B1 + B2).

Both buildings are constructed with red brick with timber-framed, pitched and tiled roofs. B1 consists of 3 stories, B2 is single story.

The proposed application area is located in a largely suburban area with a number of pasture fields and hedgerows to the north and east.

- Brief descriptions of the structures on site indicating their roosting suitability (low, moderate or high), differentiating between **those surveyed** and **not surveyed**, with an explanation why. Ensure structures are referenced and consistently indicated on relevant figures and tables.

The Biddulph Arms Public House (B1) is considered to be of high suitability for roosting bats. Coach House (B2) is considered to be of Moderate suitability for roosting bats.

Both building B1 and B2 were last surveyed for bats in 2020 (by Absolute Ecology) (2 x dusk / 1 x dawn) , and subsequently revised in 2021 (Charnia Ecology) (1 x dusk / 1 x dawn) to support of the licensing procedure. There are no other additional structures on the site.

- A description of adjacent areas/offsite habitats, specifying any relevance to bats, including descriptions of habitat/s relevant to bat commuting/foraging behaviour.

The Biddulph Arms is located within a largely suburban area, on the outskirts of the market town of Biddulph, with a number of hedge-bordered pasture fields to the north and east. The Biddulph Brook is located approximately 65m to the west of the site, surrounded by an area of deciduous woodland to the south of the site. Other areas of deciduous woodland are present, chiefly within Biddulph Grange Country Park, approximately 550m to the north-east, which contains wood-pasture and parkland. The site is connected, via the brook, to adjacent habitats such hedgerows, gardens and areas of woodland. All of these features provide excellent commuting and foraging opportunities for bats.

- Please also include annotated (cross reference the structures) and dated photographs (showing both internal and external survey areas) as these are very useful as an assessment aid. These can be inserted below or submitted as a separate (referenced) document.

See Folder 3.

C5 Field survey(s):

Surveys must be up to date and have been conducted within the current or most recent optimal season. Where a site/structure/tree has demonstrable hibernation potential appropriate surveys must be carried out. Surveys must be undertaken in accordance with the most up to date edition of the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) *Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists – Good Practice Guidelines* and the *Bat Mitigation Guidelines*.

C5a Justification for surveys that deviate from the best practice guidelines: Please provide full justification below if your surveys deviate from the aforementioned best practice guidelines, confirming how you have obtained a full appreciation of the bat species roosting at the site, and of the type and status of roosts they use on site and in the context of the immediate surrounding area. **Please note that inadequate survey information is likely to cause delays to your licence application and may result in a Further Information Request.**

N/A – hibernation inspection carried out 23/03/2021 / 2 x updated activity surveys carried out in 2021 by Charnia Ecology. No evidence of hibernating bats recorded.

C5b Please complete the following tables and add additional lines where necessary (*right click in any cell outside the grey box area. Choose Insert > Insert rows below*). Please enter 'N/A' if the table is not applicable to your survey. Please ensure the information is consistent with Figure **C5b** (showing all buildings, structures and habitats that are within the survey area and distinguishing those that were surveyed and those that were not; indicate where surveyors were located):

Visual inspection

Date of each survey visit (e.g. format 01/06/13)	Structure reference / location	Equipment used (e.g binoculars, endoscope)	Weather – (Include temps, precipitation, Beaufort wind scale etc)
17/12/2019	The Biddulph Arms (B1) and Coach House (B2). [SJ 88778 58510]	Binoculars, high-powered torch.	Not recorded by surveyor(s)
Comments (to include # of surveyors used for each visit): 2 x Surveyors carried out an initial daytime inspection of the buildings by Megan Williams (Ecologist, GradCIEEM and Natural England Class Level 1 licence holder for bats (2019-38752-CLS-CLS) and Liam Fullard (Assistant Ecologist) of NLG Ecology Ltd.			
23/03/2021	The Biddulph Arms (B1) and Coach House (B2). [SJ 88778 58510]	Binoculars, high-powered torch.	Daytime, dry, 10 degrees, >1

Comments: 2 x Surveyors carried out an initial daytime inspection of the buildings (Charnia Ecology, 2021).
Comments:
Comments:

Please provide surveyors names (including Class Licence registration number if applicable) and ensure the above table states the number of surveyors used for each survey visit undertaken.

(2019) Preliminary roost assessment carried out by Megan Williams (Ecologist, GradCIEEM and Natural England Class Level 1 licence holder for bats (2019-38752-CLS-CLS) and Liam Fullard (Assistant Ecologist) of NLG Ecology Ltd.

(2021) Revised building inspection carried out by Mark Weston (Ecologist, BSc Hons, AMRSB, Natural England Class Level 2 licence holder for bats - 2019-41525-CLS-CLS); Ian Myatt (Ecologist and Natural England Class Level 1 licence holder for bats - CLS 37098-CLS)

Dusk survey

Date of each survey visit (e.g. format 01/06/13)	Start and end times and time of sunset	Structure reference / location	Equipment used (include make of bat detectors and logging equipment)	Weather – (Include start and end temps, precipitation, Beaufort wind scale etc)
21/07/2020 (Absolute Ecology)	Start: 21:05hrs End: 22:50hrs Sunset: 21:20hrs	The Biddulph Arms (B1) and Coach House (B2). [SJ 88778 58510]	1 x Batbox Duet 1 x SSF Bat2 1 x Echometer Touch	Temp start: 15°C Temp end: 14°C Precipitation: NIL Wind speed: <1
01/09/2020 (Absolute Ecology)	Start: 19:40hrs End: 21:26hrs Sunset: 19:56hrs	The Biddulph Arms (B1) and Coach House (B2). [SJ 88778 58510]	1 x SSF Bat2 1 x Echometer Touch Canon night shot plus, with IR LED Illuminators	Temp start: 16°C Temp end: 14°C Precipitation: NIL Wind speed: <1
Comments (to include # of surveyors used for each visit): 3				
27/05/2021 (Charnia Ecology)	Start: 21:00hrs End: 23:10hrs Sunset: 21:18hrs	The Biddulph Arms (B1) and Coach House (B2). [SJ 88778 58510]	1 x SSF Bat2 1 x Echometer Touch Canon night shot plus, with IR LED Illuminators	Temp start: 11°C Temp end: 10°C Precipitation: NIL Wind speed: <1
Comments (to include # of surveyors used for each visit): 3				

Please provide surveyors names (including Class Licence registration number if applicable) and ensure the above table states the number of surveyors used for each survey visit undertaken.

(Absolute Ecology, 2020) Helen Staton 2015-14490-CLS-CLS. Sarah Higginson 2020-47903-CLS-CLS. Carrie Alcock – BSc (Hons)

(Charnia Ecology 2021) Mark Weston BSc (Hons) (2019-41525-CLS-CLS), Ian Myatt (CLS 37098-CLS) and Eleanor Harrison MSc.

Dawn survey

Date of each survey visit (e.g. format 01/06/13).	Start and end time and time of sunrise	Structure reference / location	Equipment used (include make of bat detectors and logging equipment)	Weather – (Include start and end temps, precipitation, Beaufort wind scale etc)
10/08/2020 (Absolute Ecology)	Start: 04:10hrs End: 05:55hrs Sunrise: 05:40hrs	The Biddulph Arms (B1) and Coach House (B2). [SJ 88778 58510]	1 x SSF Bat2 1 x Echometer Touch Canon night shot plus, with IR LED Illuminators	Temp start: 15°C Temp end: 12°C Precipitation: NIL Wind speed: <1

Comments (to include # of surveyors used for each visit): 3				
Comments: Roosting bats confirmed in buildings B1 and B2 during dusk and dawn surveys. B1 – peak count of four common pipistrelle (<i>pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>) and one brown long-eared (<i>plecotus auritus</i>) bat. B2 – Peak count of one common pipistrelle (<i>pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>) bat.				
16/06/2021 (Charnia Ecology)	Start: 02:41hrs End: 05:05hrs Sunrise: 04:41hrs	The Biddulph Arms (B1) and Coach House (B2). [SJ 88778 58510]	1 x SSF Bat2 1 x Echometer Touch Canon night shot plus, with IR LED Illuminators	Temp start: 13°C Temp end: 13°C Precipitation: NIL Wind speed: <1
Comments (to include # of surveyors used for each visit): 3				

Please provide surveyors names (including Class Licence registration number if applicable) and ensure the above table states the number of surveyors used for each survey visit undertaken.

(Absolute Ecology 2020) Helen Staton 2015-14490-CLS-CLS. Sarah Higginson 2020-47903-CLS-CLS. Carrie Alcock – BSc (Hons).\

(Charnia Ecology 2021) Mark Weston BSc (Hons) (2019-41525-CLS-CLS), Ian Myatt (CLS 37098-CLS) and Eleanor Harrison MSC.

‘Other’ survey (please specify e.g. trapping, remote, etc)

Date of each survey visit (e.g. format 01/06/13).	Start and end times	Structure reference / location	Equipment used (include make of bat detectors and logging equipment)	Weather – (Include start and end temps, precipitation, Beaufort wind scale etc)
Comments (to include # of surveyors used for each visit):				
Comments:				
Comments:				
Comments:				

Please provide surveyors names (including Class Licence registration number if applicable) and ensure the above table states the number of surveyors used for each survey visit undertaken.

N/A

Please explain any constraints on the survey/s undertaken (time of year, cold weather, refused access, safety issues preventing access etc – justify as necessary and include evidence where required). If access was refused please provide evidence (letter/email) to demonstrate this.

A detailed search of the two loft hatches within the interior of the pub could not be completed during the inspection, due to the small size of the loft hatches hindering access and a lack of loft boarding making entry unsafe.

Along the south-western elevation of the garage/ outbuilding, the lower portion of the building is attached to a commercial property. Due to this, visibility of the upper portion of the wall and the roof, including the dormer structure, was limited.

Also complete the following:

- If DNA analysis of droppings has been undertaken, please indicate below (Yes, No, N/A) and ensure that **Figure C5b** (if applicable – see below) details the locations where the samples were taken. Where long-eared bats are detected but cannot be identified to species level visually, DNA analysis of any droppings will be needed where grey long-eared bats may be present.

NO – Species identified visually and/or through sonogram analysis (s = 100%)

- Please confirm that a walk over survey/check has been carried out within 3 months *prior* to application submission by a suitably experienced ecologist to ensure that conditions have not changed since the most recent survey was undertaken. Provide details of any changes to conditions and habitats and/or structures on site since the surveys were undertaken.

Date of walkover survey/check	23/03/2021
Details of any changes to conditions and habitats and/or structures, if there are no changes please insert 'None'	None

C6 Survey results: Summarise your findings in the tables below and cross reference to **Figure C6** (which must also include flight lines, access points, dimensions of existing roosts etc). If you did not undertake a specific survey type please add N/A to the relevant table/s. Raw data is to be appended to the Method Statement (including sonograms, DNA analysis results etc).

Roost types to be referenced as: *Day, Night, Feeding Perch, Transitional, Satellite, Maternity, Hibernation confirmed, Foraging Area, Commuting Route, Swarming Site, Other.* See end of document for “Definitions” of these roosts.

When completing “**Notes/observations**” include reference to *direct observations, extent and age of droppings, presence of field signs, emergence or re-entry, echolocation analysis.* Also include DNA results if applicable and include nil results)

Visual inspection results

Date (e.g. format 01/06/13)	Species and numbers	Roost type (to be consistent with the above listed types)	Structure reference (consistent with relevant figures and other text)	Roost location	Access points (include # of them)	Dimensions of existing roosts or explanation of where the roost is (as appropriate)
17/12/2019 (NLG Ecology Ltd.)	0	Not determined during assessment	The Biddulph Arms (B1) and Coach House (B2). [SJ 88778 58510]	Not determined during assessment	B1 – Numerous potential ingress points were identified, in the form of lifted or missing roof tiles, lifted flashing across chimneys and missing bricks. B2 – Numerous potential ingress points were identified, in	Not determined during the assessment. Both buildings B1 and B2 possessed a number of external and internal features highly conducive for both crevice-dwelling and void-dwelling bat species.

					the form of missing brickwork gaps around the “dorma”.	
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Provide further (brief) comments/explanation if required:

Initial building inspection carried out by NLG Ecology Ltd. Reappraisal of the site by Charnia Ecology in 2021 finds the building subject to development remains unchanged externally and internally since 2019 assessment (NGL Ecology Ltd.) and 2020 activity surveys (Absolute Ecology).

Dusk survey results

Date (e.g. format 01/06/13)	Start and end times	Species and numbers	Roost type (to be consistent with the above listed types)	Structure reference (consistent with relevant figures and other text)	Roost location	Access points (include # of them)	Dimensions of existing roosts or explanation of where the roost is (as appropriate)
21/07/2020 (Absolute Ecology)	Start: 21:05hrs End: 22:50hrs	Common pipistrelle – <i>pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> (N4)	Summer day roost (B1)	The Biddulph Arms (B1) and Coach House (B2). [SJ 88778 58510]	Main roost recorded in B1 within the north east and south western sections of the roof structure.	2 x Access points were noted at the north east elevation roof ridge area and the south west roof area.	Unknown. Crevice/cavity location under raised roof tiles.
01/09/2020 (Absolute Ecology)	Start: 19:40hrs End: 21:26hrs						
Notes/observations: Peak count 4 common pipistrelle bats from B1. No bats seen to emerge from or return to building B2.							
27/05/2021 (Charnia Ecology)	Start: 21:00hrs End: 23:10hrs	Common pipistrelle – <i>pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> (N5)	Summer day roost (B1)	The Biddulph Arms (B1) and Coach House (B2). [SJ 88778 58510]	Main roost recorded within the north western and south western sections of the roof structure of B1.	4No. access points (B1) confirmed on B1: south west and north west roof areas, from underneath roof tiles.	Crevice/cavity location under raised roof tiles.
		Common pipistrelle – <i>pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> (N4)	Summer day roost (B2)		1 x pip45 seen emerging from SW roof area on B2	1No. access point (B2) SW area of roof.	Crevice/cavity location under raised roof tiles.
Notes/observations: 2021 dusk surveys (Charnia Ecology) corroborate that of 2020 dusk surveys (Absolute Ecology) -with a peak count 4/5 common pipistrelle bats from B1 and 1 x common pipistrelle from B2.							

Provide further (brief) comments/explanation if required:

Dawn Survey results

Date (e.g. format 01/06/13)	Start and end times	Species and numbers	Roost type (to be consistent with the above listed types)	Structure reference (consistent with relevant figures and other text)	Roost location	Access points (include # of them)	Dimensions of existing roosts or explanation of where the roost is (as appropriate)
10/08/2020 (Absolute Ecology)	Start: 04:10hrs End: 05:55hrs	Common pipistrelle – <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> . B1 – (N3). B2 – (N1)	Summer day roost, B1 and B2	The Biddulph Arms (B1) and Coach House (B2). [SJ 88778 58510]	B1:re-entry ridge of roof, north west facing / SW area soffit eaves region	4No. Access points (B1) were noted at south west and north west roof areas,	Crevise/cavity location under raised roof tiles.
		Brown long-eared bat <i>Plecotus</i> B1 – (N1)			Re-entry B1 south east slope,		Crevise/cavity location under raised roof tiles.

Notes/observations: B1 – peak count of two common pipistrelle and one brown long-eared seen to re-enter / B2 – peak count of one common pipistrelle seen to re-enter

16/06/2021 (Charnia Ecology)	Start: 02:41hrs End: 05:05hrs Sunrise: 04:41hrs	Common pipistrelle – <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> . B1 – (N3). B2 – (N1)	Summer day roost, B1 and B2	The Biddulph Arms (B1) and Coach House (B2). [SJ 88778 58510]	B1:re-entry ridge of roof, north west facing / SW area soffit eaves region	4No. Access points (B1) were noted at south west and north west roof areas,	Crevise/cavity location under raised roof tiles.
		Brown long-eared bat <i>Plecotus</i> B1 – (N1)			Re-entry B1 south east slope,		Crevise/cavity location under raised roof tiles.

Notes/observations: 2021 dusk surveys (Charnia Ecology) corroborate that of 2020 dusk surveys (Absolute Ecology) - Peak count 4/5 common pipistrelle seen re-entering B1 and 1 x common pipistrelle seen re-entering B2 / 1 x brown long-eared bat seeing re-entering B1.

Provide further (brief) comments/explanation if required:

‘Other’ results – please specify.

Date (e.g. format 01/06/13)	Species and numbers	Roost type (to be consistent with the above listed types)	Structure reference (consistent with relevant figures and other text)	Roost location	Access points (include # of them)	Dimensions of existing roosts or explanation of where the roost is (as appropriate)
Notes/observations:						

Notes/observations:						
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Notes/observations:						

Provide further (brief) comments/explanation if required:

C7 Interpretation/evaluation of survey results (also see the Bat Mitigation Guidelines section 5.8 and Figure 4 for conservation significance of roost type): Please complete the following table:

Structure reference (ensure consistency with other text and Figures)	Species	Count / estimate of number of individuals	Roost location	Site status assessment (e.g. maternity, feeding roost, swarming site, hibernation confirmed etc)	Conservation significance of roost
The Biddulph Arms (B1) and Coach House (B2). 171 Congleton Road, Biddulph, Stoke on Trent. ST8 6QJ [SJ 88778 58510]	Common pipistrelle, <i>pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	N5	Building B1 – Roof structure/ tile cavity.	Summer day roost	Low-moderate conservation significance at site level.
	Brown long-eared bat, <i>Plecotus auritus</i>	N1	Building B1 – Roof structure/ tile cavity / potential void.	Summer day roost	low conservation significance at site level of a UK BAP species.
	Common pipistrelle, <i>pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	N1	Building B2 – Roof structure/ tile cavity	Summer day roost	Low conservation significance at site level.

If hibernation roost(s) were not identified in the survey, please indicate the hibernation roost potential of the site and/or structure(s) which will be impacted by the proposal by ticking the relevant box.	☐ High
	☐ Medium
	☒ Low

Provide details on the assessment and rationale of the hibernation roost potential.

Where a site/structure/tree has hibernation potential and/or hibernation roosts have been confirmed, Natural England expects any works which may impact on hibernating bats, or their roosts, to be undertaken outside of the hibernation period.

Due to low numbers of bats recorded during summer and no evidence of over-wintering bats, with no major roofing works intended, no impact on any hibernation roosts for bats is predicted under the proposed scheme.

Provide further (brief) comments / explanation if required:

Important Advice:

Survey maps that must be included in this section of the Method Statement, or as separate documents if preferred, are listed in section I "Map checklist" at the end of this document.

Insert survey figures, photographs etc below here if not submitting them as separate documents

D Impact assessment in absence of mitigation or compensation for each species / roost type

(also see section 6 of the Bat Mitigation Guidelines). Where appropriate you must take into consideration cumulative impacts of your proposals on the bat species and populations identified in your survey in each section.

Guidance on quantifying roosts for the purpose of licensing: To be considered the same roost, the locations need to have the same **functional** and **qualitative** (e.g. physical) characteristics, be used by the **same species** for the **same purpose** (e.g. day roosting) and be within the **same building / structure**. If the physical characteristics are different (e.g. one roost is in external crevices in the wall and the other is in the roof void against internal timbers) then they should be considered different roosts - because they offer bats different roosting opportunities. If the physical characteristics are similar and provide the same functional characteristics, used by the same species for the same purpose (e.g. transitional roost) but with different individual roosting locations within the overall building / structure, that could be considered one transitional roost. If two species are using an area which provides the same characteristics, for the same function, it is still two roosts - as there are two species.

D1 Initial impacts: The impact/s of activities undertaken on site pre-development and during works must be considered and explained. **Consider disturbance** (such as human presence, noise, vibration, dust, lighting, access obstruction due to scaffolding and plastic sheeting etc), **temporary damage and temporary loss of roosts and injuring/killing**.

E.g. Unsupervised contractor removing roof tiles has the potential to crush 3 common pipistrelle bats using the roof tiles as day roosts. Major negative impact at a site level; Demolition of an extension to a building will take place adjacent to a maternity roost of common pipistrelle bats situated under the soffit board of the retained building. Potential for significant disturbance if demolition works are undertaken during the maternity period through vibration, noise and dust. Medium negative impact on a local level.

- 1) Short-term disturbance and modification of a common pipistrelle summer day roost (N<5) during internal conversion work and minor roof repairs to building B1
- 2) Short-term disturbance and modification of a brown long-eared bat summer day roost (N<2/ UKBAP species) during internal conversion work and minor roof repairs.
- 3) Short-term disturbance and modification of a common pipistrelle summer day roost (N<2) during internal conversion work and minor roof repairs to building B2

Confirm number of roosts to be damaged: No permanent damage to existing roosts predicted. Short-term disturbance and potential modification considered for: Building 'B1' 1 x common pipistrelle roost and 1 x brown long-eared bat roost. B2 – 1 x common pipistrelle roost.

D2 Long-term impacts: Consider and explain the impacts of the proposed works on the different species populations at a site, local, regional, and national level.

D2.1. Roost modification: e.g. changes to roosts/access points, new entrances (including human access e.g. for servicing/maintenance etc), change in size of roost space, changes in air flow, temperature and humidity, light etc. Please detail the access points into each roost and the type/s of roosts which will be modified.

E.g. Non-mitigated changes to the roof structure, which requires replacing, will lead to the modification of 3 access points into a common pipistrelle maternity roost which will result in bats being unable to enter or exit the roost. Moderate negative impact on a local level.

The internal conversion and remedial roof repairs on both B1 and B2 at an indiscriminate time may result in potential disturbance, modification and loss of a summer day roost for common pipistrelle (N5) and individual brown long-eared roost in Building 'B1' and for individual common pipistrelle in Building 'B2'. In the absence of mitigation there is potential existing ingress points might be lost

and sealed off.

Confirm number of roosts to be modified: 3

D2.2. Roost loss: Loss or deterioration of roosting sites, access points, habitat, etc must be considered. Please detail the access points into each roost and types of roost/s which will be lost.

E.g. Demolition of building reference X in June will lead to the loss of a night roost in the porch used by 1 lesser horseshoe bat and the loss of a maternity brown-long eared bat roost in the loft space. This will lead to the death and/or injury of bats including dependent young and permanent destruction (loss) of both roosts. Moderate negative impact at a site level for lesser horseshoe bats and moderate negative impact at a local level for brown-long eared bats.

In absence of mitigation, roofing repairs and internal conversion of buildings B1 and B2 has potential to result in disturbance and loss of 2 x summer day roosts for common pipistrelle and 1x brown-long eared roost.

Confirm number of roosts to be destroyed: None

D2.3. Fragmentation and isolation: Will the proposed works results in these impacts? E.g. loss of linear features such as hedges, tree lines, increased lighting, severance of flight lines by roads/rail lines, separation of breeding/hibernation sites from feeding grounds, etc.

E.g. In addition to the removal of common pipistrelle day roosts in trees along the proposed road, removal of hedgerows, shown on Figure D, and the construction of the new road will fragment a significant commuting and foraging route for a lesser horseshoe maternity roost. This may cause a reduction in the long term success of the breeding colony of lesser horseshoes by restricting existing foraging range or killing bats on the road. Potentially major negative impact at a site and local level.

Considered as being a small-scale development which will retain its existing footprint, no fragmentation and isolation is predicted under the proposed scheme. All mature trees and hedgerows onsite to be retained. Linear features used by commuting and foraging bats will not be affected. Conversely, mitigation will consider a sensitive post-development lighting scheme to minimize sky-glow and prevent any severance potential between adjacent habitats and connectivity to the wider landscape.

D3 Post-development interference impacts: e.g. extra street lighting or other external lighting, use of loft space as storage, increased noise. Please also consider other direct or indirect post development impacts which may include disturbance/ injuring/killing.

E.g. Security lighting being installed will shine on the brown-long eared bat maternity roost access points which may affect emergence patterns and lead to a reduction in foraging times. This may cause a reduction in the long term success of the breeding colony or cause the roost to be abandoned. Moderate to high negative impact at a site and local level.

The proposed application site is identified as a rural area with low district brightness, and categorized as ILP Environmental Zone E2: Subsequently a sensitive, low-level lighting scheme will comply to ILP Guidance Notes GN01:2011 for the Reduction of Obtrusive Light, and GN8/18 'Bats and artificial lighting in the UK', to reduce light spill onto existing roost areas and adjacent habitats.

Any security lighting will be on a timer setting and faced down to prevent spillage onto nearby habitats. Height of any lighting columns around the development will not exceed eight metres to further reduce any ecological impact of light pollution. Low-pressure sodium lamps (SOX) fitted with hoods are recommended to direct light below the horizontal plane to minimize upward light spill.

The site is located on the A527 Congleton Road, which is subject to the high levels of street lighting and traffic noise associated with a busy road. It is unlikely that, once development is completed, there will be any significant increase in either light or noise levels.

The existing loft area of the second floor of building B1 shall not be used as habitable floor space and shall be retained for the purposes of providing a bat roost and with a bat entry points retained for the lifetime of the development.

Building B2 will include a newly created apex box region and bats tiles across the roof ridge lines. Traditional bitumen F1 underfelt will be used as an internal membrane.

D4 Predicted scale of impact of this development/activity on species status (also see section 6.5 of the Bat Mitigation Guidelines and the BCT's Bat Survey Good Practice Guidelines): Please complete the following table to explain what this is likely to be at the site, local/county and regional levels for each roost type and species. Add additional lines when necessary

Roost types to be referenced as: Day, Night, Feeding Perch, Transitional, Satellite, Maternity, Hibernation confirmed, Foraging Area, Commuting Route, Swarming Site, Other.

Species and Numbers (which will be affected at the time works will be undertaken)	Roost type	Predicted scale of impact (place X in relevant column)			Notes (include impact on roost – damage / destruction /modification etc)
		Site	County	Regional	
Common pipistrelle	Summer Day roost in buildings 'B1' and 'B2'	x			Potential modification and disturbance of roosting areas across roof sections for individual common pipistrelle.
Brown long-eared bats	Summer day roost in building 'B1'	x			Potential modification and disturbance of roosting areas across roof sections for individual brown long-eared bats, UKBAP species.

****Please note** that you can add more rows to the table: right click in any cell outside the grey box area. Choose Insert > Insert rows below.

Provide further comments/explanation as required (this helps understand how the impacts will be mitigated or compensated for when assessing section E):

Important Advice:

Please ensure that a separate 'Impact map' is provided ([Figure D](#)) which must show all structures or habitats (clearly referenced) that will be disturbed, damaged or destroyed, detailing where the roosts and access points are etc. Also see section I "Map checklist" at the end of this document.

E Mitigation and Compensation (please also see section 7 and 8 of the Bat Mitigation Guidelines)

E1 Please explain why this design was chosen over other potential solutions - set out what other designs were considered and why they were not feasible (e.g. if the proposal is to construct a new stand-alone roost, explain why it is not possible to retain the roost in the existing structure etc). The mitigation solution being proposed in the method statement should be the one that delivers the 'need' with the least impact on the bat population.

The existing roof void in building 'B1' will be retained, with minor repairs to 2nd floor ceilings and minor external roof repairs, which will also include the addition of bat tiles (as per NE Detail 4B) to provide permanent access for bats into the roof void.

Building B2 will include a newly created apex box region and bats tiles (as per NE Detail 4B) across the roof ridge lines. Traditional bitumen 1F underfelt will be used as an internal membrane.

In-order to deliver least impact to roosting bats onsite, the single-phase development will be undertaken outside the main summer period. Works is scheduled to begin October start 2021 with all

work and mitigation features for roosting bats completed before mid- April 2022.

E2.2 Capture and release (if applicable):

Please confirm that you agree to undertake the following procedures for the capture and exclusion of bats, where these are applicable:

- a. The use of endoscopes, artificial light from torches, destructive search by soft demolition (see Definitions), temporary obstruction of roost access, temporary or permanent exclusion methods (including installation) and use of static hand held nets must only be undertaken or directly supervised by the Named Ecologist, or an Accredited Agent.
- b. Where capture and/or handling of bats are necessary, only the Named Ecologist, Accredited Agent, or an Assistant directly supervised by the Named Ecologist may do so. Capture/handling/exclusion of bats must only be undertaken in conditions suitable for bats to be active.
- c. Where bats are discovered and taken (excluding unexpected discoveries during adverse weather conditions) they must either be relocated to an alternative roost (see Definitions) suitable for the species, or where bats are held this must be done safely and bats released on site at dusk in, or adjacent to, suitable foraging/ commuting habitat in safe areas within or directly adjacent to the pre-works habitat.
- d. Endoscopes and hand held nets are only to be used to assist with the locating and capture of bats.
- e. Temporary and permanent exclusion must be carried out using techniques specified in the most up to date edition of the *'Bat Workers Manual'*. If one-way exclusion devices are to be used, each device must remain in position for a period of at least 5 consecutive days/ nights throughout a spell of suitable weather conditions, or remain longer until these conditions prevail.
- f. Prior to destructive works, an inspection using torches and/or an endoscope must be performed internally to search for the presence of bats. If any licensed vesper bat species is found and is accessible, each will be captured by gloved hand or hand-held net, given a health check and then each placed carefully inside a draw-string, calico cloth holding bag or similar for transport. If any licensed horseshoe bat species is found, the capture methods outlined in (h) will only be used after it has been shown that overnight dispersal or exclusion are no longer practicable methods.
- g. Following inspection and exclusion operations, the removal of any feature with bat roost potential, will be only performed by hand in suitable weather conditions and under direct ecological supervision. Where applicable, materials will be removed carefully away and not rolled or sprung to avoid potential harm to bats. The undersides of materials will be checked by the Named Ecologist or Accredited Agent for bats that may be clung to them before removal.
- h. For sites where the presence of horseshoe species has been confirmed, the following exclusion method will be used: prior to work commencing, the Named Ecologist or Accredited Agent will conduct a thorough internal inspection for the presence of horseshoe bats. Only after the void is shown to be unoccupied will the destructive search commence, or all apertures into that void be closed and sealed (windows, doors, etc) by use of boarding, sealed tarpaulin or similar.

If a horseshoe bat is encountered, it will be left undisturbed during daylight. After all bats have dispersed overnight, the void will be sealed as described above. If all bats have not emerged, the Named Ecologist will either use torchlight and non-tactile human presence to disturb the bat to encourage it to emerge and disperse, during night only, or through use of a hand held net. Only after all bats have emerged from the building or void will it be sealed.

Yes, I agree / No, I don't agree

Yes

If NO, please provide justification below. Please use this text box to describe any additional information on protocols to be employed if bats are found during works. Non-standard capture and exclusion apparatus must be shown on **Figure E2**.

Nil capture is expected given intended work programme and timing of works. However, given minor roof repairs on building 'B1' and 'B2' (See Appendix Fig. D), some allowance is requested for standard capture and exclusion, in the unlikely event bats are encountered –

see below:

Should your proposals include capture (taking) please specify numbers of each species that will be affected at the time the works are to be undertaken:

Species	Expected number of bats to be captured at the time works will be undertaken. <i>Note: this may be different to the number of bats using the roost at its optimum time as timings for works will be at a time when bats are least likely to be present.</i>
Common pipistrelle	Nil capture is expected given intended work programme and timing of works – Conversely, 3No. are requested as a precautionary measure during minor roof repairs on both building B1 and B2)
Brown long-eared bat	Nil capture is expected given intended work programme and timing of works – Conversely, 1No. are requested as a precautionary measure during minor roof repairs on both building B1 and B2)

** Please note that you can add more rows to the table: right click in any cell outside the grey box area. Choose Insert > Insert rows below.

E3 Bat roost and access point retention, modification and creation: Please detail how all impacts to each species (as identified in sections C and D) will be mitigated. If not applicable to your proposals please state 'N/A' in the relevant text boxes.

Please note that breathable roofing membranes must not be installed into a roof used by bats. If the use of roof membranes is necessary, only Bitumen type 1F felt with a hessian matrix will be permitted under licence:

Yes, I agree

E3.1 Retention of existing roost(s) – Works may include, for example, maintenance works that result in no material changes to the roost but may cause disturbance or temporary damage e.g. temporary exclusion of a roost to allow investigative and repair works to a bridge. Provide details of all works including:

- Number and description of roosts to be retained, with an explanation of how they will be retained. Confirm dimensions to be retained.

Summer day roost in building 'B1' for common pipistrelle (N5) and brown long-eared bat (N1). No major material changes predicted / short-term disturbance considered. The existing roof void in Building 'B1' will be retained, with minor repairs to 2nd floor ceilings and minor external roof repairs, which will also include the addition of bat tiles (as per NE Detail 4B) to provide permanent access for bats into the roof void.

Building B2 will include a newly created apex box region and bats tiles (as per NE Detail 4B) across the roof ridge lines. Traditional bitumen 1F underfelt will be used as an internal membrane.

In-order to deliver least impact to roosting bats onsite, the single-phase development will be undertaken outside the main summer period. Works is scheduled to begin October start 2021 with all work and mitigation features for roosting bats completed before mid- April 2022.

- Number of access/entrance points to be retained and how this will be achieved. If enhancements to the roosts will be provided, such as through crevice provision, please detail.

No major roofing works proposed with retention of all existing roof crevices utilised by bats ntended. Additional enhancements provided (as stated above).

- Mitigation for any other impacts e.g. new lighting at the site.

The proposed application site is located within a suburban area being of Medium district brightness. The proposed developments to both buildings B1 and B2 are situated on the busy A527 Congleton to Biddulph road, and as a consequence, the site is already subject to high levels of light from the street lights.

Any additional artificial lighting will comply to protocols outlined in the Institute for Lighting Engineers document "Guidance for the Reduction of Obtrusive Lighting" (ILP, 2005) Guidance Notes GN01:2011 and GN8/18; and Bat Conservation Trust's "Artificial Lighting and Wildlife Interim Guidance.

E3.2 Modification of existing roost(s) - Works may include, for example, reduction in roof void height, change of tiles and roof lining (stating the type of membrane that will be used), alteration of access point through replacement of soffits etc. Please provide the following:

- Dimension details of modified roosts: clearly state what the original roost dimensions were and what the dimensions of the modified roost will be.

Building 'B1' - will retain its current roof void, with only minor, external roof repairs being carried, and repairs to the internal ceilings where required.

Building 'B2' – This building currently has no internal divisions or floors, and is currently open to roof

apex from ground-floor level. The proposed development will include the addition of a 1st floor, and a 1st floor ceiling. No major modifications to existing roost areas for void-dwelling bats is considered.

- Dimension details of modified access points: clearly state how the access points are being modified.

Building B1 will retain all of the existing internal roof void region, and include 5No. additional bat access tiles across the roof ridge lines to provide further ingress points into the loft region. Modified Hog's-back or Half-round ridge ventilator access tiles (with internal mesh removed) will be fitted at equidistant to allow access into the loft region (as per NE Detail 4B). Traditional bitumen 1F underfelt already in place.

Building B2 will include a newly created apex box region and 3No. bat access tiles across the roof ridge lines to allow access into this apex box (as per NE Detail 4B). Traditional bitumen 1F underfelt will be used as an internal membrane.

- Details of any other modifications to be made to roosts.

- Mitigation for any impacts of lighting on the modified roost/s if appropriate.

Any security lighting will be on a timer setting and faced down to prevent spillage onto the buildings themselves plus any nearby habitats. Height of any lighting columns around the development will not exceed eight metres to further reduce any ecological impact of light pollution. Low-pressure sodium lamps (SOX) fitted with hoods are recommended to direct light below the horizontal plane to minimize upward light spill.

E3.3 New roost creation (including bat houses, cotes and bat boxes etc).

Note – creation of compensation for high impact cases (e.g. loss of a maternity roost) must be protected in the long term. Any bat boxes or roost structures that are part of a licence proposal which do not show signs of bats must be retained for a minimum of 5 years from date of completion of the development/works. Typically this will be around 5 years for low conservation status roost compensation (e.g. bat boxes) and longer for other significant roosts (e.g. bat houses, lofts etc). The exact time period will be specified in any licence issued. For high conservation status roost loss, the compensation roost/s must still be protected in the long term by another means (such as a s106 agreement), which is particularly important if the structure is likely to change ownership.

E3.3a Please complete the table below for the species and roost types listed. For all other species and roost types please provide information under **E3.3b**.

Species & Roost type for which new roost creation will be provided Select 'yes' for those species impacted or 'N/A' if not applicable to this application	New roost creation		
	Compensation should be in line with the <i>Bat Mitigation Guidelines</i> . Where compensation is being provided, there should be at least one compensation feature, suitable for the species concerned, per roost and per species to be impacted , OR If a proposal impacts more than one bat species and / or roost type then cumulative impacts must be considered when designing the compensation; this should always be in line with the species and / or roost type which will be subject to the greatest impact and ensure that the requirements of all species impacted are met.		
	Compensation Feature	Quantity	Location of Compensation Feature (as shown on Figure E3)
Common pipistrelle ☒ Yes ☐ N/A Day roost Night roost Feeding	☒ Bat box ☐ Integrated bat box/ bat brick/ bat tube ☒ Bat tile (including ridge tile) ☐ Other (specify): ☐ None	4no. Bat tiles inclusive on Building B1 (as per Natural England detail 4B) to allow access into	☒ In same building ☐ In other existing building on site ☐ In new building ☐ Other (specify):

<i>Transitional/Occasional</i>		ridge tile cavities + also existing loft region. 3no. bat tiles inclusive on Building B2 (as per Natural England detail 4B / to allow access into a newly created apex box region. 1No. 1WQ Schwegler external bat box fitted on SW gable end of B1 (to also be used as a receptor in the unlikely events bats are discovered) 1No. Beaumaris woodstone bat box fitted externally on NW gable-end of B2	
Soprano pipistrelle ☐ Yes ☒ N/A Day roost Night roost Feeding Transitional/Occasional	☐ Bat box ☐ Integrated bat box/ bat brick/ bat tube ☐ Bat tile (including ridge tile) ☐ Other (specify): ☐ None		☐ In same building ☐ In other existing building on site ☐ In new building ☐ Other (specify):
Whiskered ☐ Yes ☒ N/A Day roost Night roost Feeding Transitional/Occasional	☐ Bat box ☐ Integrated bat box/ bat brick/ bat tube ☐ Bat tile (including ridge tile) ☐ Other (specify): ☐ None		☐ In same building ☐ In other existing building on site ☐ In new building ☐ Other (specify):
Brandt's ☐ Yes ☒ N/A Day roost Night roost Feeding Transitional/Occasional	☐ Bat box ☐ Integrated bat box/ bat brick/ bat tube ☐ Bat tile (including ridge tile) ☐ Other (specify): ☐ None		☐ In same building ☐ In other existing building on site ☐ In new building ☐ Other (specify):
Daubenton's ☐ Yes ☒ N/A Day roost Night roost Feeding Transitional/Occasional	☐ Bat box ☐ Integrated bat box/ bat brick/ bat tube ☐ Bat tile (including ridge tile) ☐ Other (specify): ☐ None		☐ In same building ☐ In other existing building on site ☐ In new building ☐ Other (specify):

Natterer's ☐ Yes ☒ N/A <i>Day roost</i> <i>Night roost</i> <i>Feeding</i> <i>Transitional/Occasional</i>	☐ Bat box ☐ Integrated bat box/ bat brick/ bat tube ☐ Bat tile (including ridge tile) ☐ Other (specify): ☐ None		☐ In same building ☐ In other existing building on site ☐ In new building ☐ Other (specify):
Brown long-eared ☒ Yes ☐ N/A <i>Day roost</i> <i>Night roost</i> <i>Feeding</i> <i>Transitional/Occasional</i>	Note: boxes for this species will only be acceptable in certain circumstances, where this is justified on an ecological basis ☒ Bat box, justification As a receptor for any captured bats ☒ Other (specify): Bat tile ☐ None	4no. inclusive bat tiles on Building B1 (as per Natural England detail 4B) to allow access into existing loft region. 3no. inclusive bat tiles on Building B2 (as per Natural England detail 4B / to allow access into a newly created apex box region. 1No. Vincent Pro bat box on north side of B1 - to also be used as a receptor box in the unlikely event bats are discovered)	☒ In same building ☐ In other existing building on site ☐ In new building ☐ Other (specify):
Serotine ☐ Yes ☒ N/A <i>Day roost</i> <i>Night roost</i> <i>Feeding</i> <i>Transitional/Occasional</i>	Note: bat boxes are not suitable for this species. Compensation should replicate, as closely as possible, the existing roost: ☐ Bat tile ☐ Bat brick ☐ Other (specify):		☐ In same building ☐ In other existing building on site ☐ In new building ☐ Other (specify):
Lesser Horseshoe ☐ Yes ☒ N/A <i>Day roost</i> <i>Transitional/Occasional</i>	A proportionate number of bat features suitable for the species. The provision of one feature, suitable for the species concerned (eg void) per roost to be impacted will be considered appropriate: Specify:		☐ In same building ☐ In other existing building on site ☐ In new building ☐ Other (specify):

E3.3b For all species and roost types not covered in the above table please provide the following:

- New roost dimension details or features (to include bat tiles/boxes as applicable).

N/A

- Access points and size of access points.

Building B1 will retain all of the existing internal roof void region, and include 5No. additional bat

Access tiles across the roof ridge lines to provide further ingress points into the loft region. Modified Hog's-back or Half-round ridge ventilator access tiles (with internal mesh removed) will be fitted at equidistant to allow access into the loft region (as per NE Detail 4B). Traditional bitumen 1F underfelt already in place.

Building B2 will include a newly created apex box region and 3No. bat access tiles across the roof ridge lines to allow access into this apex box (as per NE Detail 4B). Traditional bitumen 1F underfelt will be used as an internal membrane.

- Location details (including an 8-figure grid reference for bat houses or bat lofts relating to the structure. 8-figure grid references are not required for positions of individual boxes, tiles etc).

The Biddulph Arms (B1) and Coach House (B2) 171 Congleton Road, Biddulph, Stoke on Trent. ST8 6QJ [SJ 88778 58510]

- Aspect. Explain how the internal conditions of the roost will be created.

Building 'B1' will retain all of the existing roof void following remedial repairs to water damage areas across ceiling regions.

Building 'B2' will encompass a newly created internal apex box spanning the entire length of the ridge line of the roof

- Details of the materials to be used e.g. timber, sarking, felt etc.

Building B2 will be created using timber and plyboard being lined with traditional bitumastic F1 felt

- Justification for any variation from the original roost and/or deviations from recommendations in the Bat Mitigation Guidelines. (*Diagrams of widely available standard bat box designs are not required; just refer to bat box name and reference number, e.g. Schwegler 1FF*).

N/A

- Mitigation for any impacts of lighting if appropriate.

(See E3.1)

- Structures for access for monitoring / maintenance purposes (if applicable)

Two existing loft hatches will be retained in Building 'B1' for access purposes into the roof void / No access into the newly created apex bat box is proposed

E3.4 Other habitat re-instatement or creation (e.g. retention of existing flight lines, retention or creation of appropriate vegetation around roost entrances where applicable) – please include details of:

- Habitat replacement (following works resulting in temporary impacts) or creation not covered by sections E2 to E3 such as hedgerow/woodland planting or enhancement. State the length of hedgerow planting and areas (ha) of other planting to be provided such as woodland and anticipated establishment period etc.

N/A

- Creation of flight lines/routes of connectivity.

N/A

- Foraging area enhancements, etc

N/A

- Mitigation for any impacts of lighting if appropriate.

Any additional artificial lighting will comply to protocols outlined in the Institute for Lighting Engineers document "Guidance for the Reduction of Obtrusive Lighting" (ILP, 2005) Guidance Notes GN01:2011 and GN8/18; and Bat Conservation Trust's "Artificial Lighting and Wildlife Interim Guidance.

Any security lighting will be on a timer setting and faced down to prevent spillage onto either of the two buildings + nearby habitats. Height of any lighting columns around the development will not exceed eight metres to further reduce any ecological impact of light pollution. Low-pressure sodium lamps (SOX) fitted with hoods are recommended to direct light below the horizontal plane to minimize upward light spill.

E3.5 Wider biodiversity gains:

Please indicate if enhancements, over and above what is necessary to mitigate the impact of the activity of the licence proposal, are being provided. Please indicate if enhancements are included to satisfy the requirement of a planning permission, and if so state the relevant planning condition, or other consents in your response below. Please also state if an applicant wishes to provide more than is typically required to mitigate for the impacts. Enter N/A if this is not applicable to your application.

Note: Any licence granted will only cover mitigation and compensation required to fulfill licensing requirements, but will acknowledge additional biodiversity enhancements.

Proposed mitigation is considered to be proportionate in terms of compensation for maintaining the Favourable Conservation Status of the roosting bat species currently onsite, whilst also enhancing the ecological value of the site in accordance to Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) act 2006).

Important Advice:

Scaled maps/plans of mitigation/compensation must be provided as separate maps/figures (also **see section I "Map checklist" at the end of this document**):

- **Figure E2** if non-standard capture and exclusion apparatus is proposed please include diagrams/photographs.
- **Figure E3** to show specifications for mitigation / compensation to be provided and annotate where it will be provided. Should the scheme be large or complicated it may be necessary to submit more than one figure.

NOTE: It must be possible to compare these with the survey results plan (**Figure C6**) and 'Impacts' Figure (**D**).

E4 Post-development site safeguard: Further guidance and explanation on post-development monitoring requirements are included within our 'How to get a licence' document http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/wml-g12_tcm6-4116.pdf. Also see Section 8.7 of the Bat Mitigation Guidelines.

E4.1 Habitat/site management and maintenance: Is any specific post-development habitat management and site maintenance planned? If 'No; state 'N/A'. If 'Yes' include the following:

- The period (years and months) for which habitat management and maintenance will take place. Ensure that this is consistent with the post development works detailed in section **E5b** of the **Work Schedule document, WML-A13-a-E5a&b**.

N/A

- Details of what will be undertaken in terms of site maintenance required to ensure long-term security of the affected population (e.g. maintain, repair or reinstate access points; maintain and repair heaters and /or data loggers; maintain, repair or restore bat feature / bat loft in good condition; repair or replace inspection hatches; management and maintenance of lighting regime, or bat boxes etc).

N/A

- Details of what will be undertaken in terms of habitat management (e.g. planting cover around roost structure, hedgerow management regime, checking establishment of habitat creation; reduction of shade around roosts, woodland management to maintain species and structural diversity etc). Ensure this relates to the relevant map.

N/A

Note – for phased or multi-plot developments a separate habitat management and maintenance plan is required, which must be submitted with the master plan: see guidance on phased developments.

Important Advice:

Please include **Figure E4** as a separate figure to show which structures and habitats will be managed, maintained and monitored post development as part of your proposal – also see *section I "Map checklist" at the end of this document*).

E4.2 Population monitoring, roost usage etc: This should be in line with the monitoring requirements detailed in the Bat Mitigation Guidelines section 8.7 and Figure 4.

E4.2a Please complete the table below for the species and roost types listed. For all other species and roost types please provide information under E4.2b.

Species	Roost type	Post-development monitoring requirement
Common pipistrelle Soprano pipistrelle Whiskered Brandts Daubenton's Natterer's Brown long-eared	Day roost Night roost Feeding Transitional/Occasional	☒ None. There is no post-development requirement for proposals affecting bat roosts supporting up to any 3 species indicated, of the roost types listed, where they are used by low numbers of each species. ☐ A single presence / absence survey at an appropriate time of year is to be undertaken. This should not take place in the first year following completion of development. Timing (year): ☐ Other (specify):
Serotine	Day roost Night roost Feeding Transitional/Occasional	☐ A single presence / absence survey at an appropriate time of year is to be undertaken. This should not take place in the first year following completion of development. Timing (year): ☐ Other (specify):
Lesser Horseshoe	Day roost Transitional/Occasional	☐ A single presence or absence survey at an appropriate time of year to be undertaken in year 2 post development plus a check of the condition and suitability of the roost. ☐ Other (specify):

E4.2b For all species and roost types not covered in the above table please include details of:

- Timing – state the years and months post development monitoring or other will be undertaken. Ensure that is consistent with the post development works detailed in section **E5b** of the **Work Schedule document WML-A13-a-E5a&b**.

N/A

- The type of monitoring which will be undertaken – include survey methods and equipment to be used. If it is expected any bats are to be taken or disturbed during this period please state anticipated numbers per species against each licensable activity.

N/A

- Specify which compensation/mitigation measures will be subject to monitoring (as referenced on Figure E4).

N/A

Please note that it will be a requirement of the licence to undertake remedial action should monitoring identify that further management/maintenance is required of any compensation/mitigation provided, to ensure that mitigation/compensation measures are working effectively and are fit for purpose.

Important advice: Please always consider whether any *post development* monitoring effort should be staggered over alternate years in cases where use of the compensation measures may not occur in the same year of provision.

E4.3 Mechanism for ensuring safeguard of mitigation/compensation and post-development management, maintenance and monitoring works:

Please explain what mechanism is in place to ensure safeguard of mitigation/compensation provisions (e.g. Restrictive Covenant, clause to relinquish future development rights in S106 agreement, NERC Act agreement, explicit recognition of site in local planning documents, designation as County Wildlife Site or similar.) The need for this, and the type of mechanism, will vary with the scheme and impact. For substantial impact schemes (e.g. destruction of a significant maternity roost, or important hibernation site), some mechanism is always required. If you offer no specific mechanism, explain how you believe the population will be free of threats as far as can be reasonably determined (**the expectation of the granting of a licence should not be used for this purpose**).

The development will remain under the ownership of the applicant who has read and agreed to the Method Statement proposal. All person(s) using the site will be made aware of the existence of a bat roost onsite. The deeds to the relevant dwellings will incorporate an information sheet about the presence of protected bat species, their conservation status and current legislation.

Explain how all post-development works (management, maintenance (including remedial action) and monitoring, as appropriate) will be ensured? Include a commitment that the monitoring, habitat management and maintenance work will be undertaken. Mechanism/s for ensuring delivery must be in place before applying for a licence (also see Section F).

The applicant will sign the application form to agree that all post development works are ensured and that conditions are met with the planning permission by the local authority.

E5 Timetable of works: Please complete the **work schedule document WML-A13-a-E5a&b found on the 'bat' application form web page and append to your application pack.**

Important Advice: Please note that from end of March 2014 a separate work schedule is a mandatory requirement to support a new bat licence application when using this template.

F Declarations

If the mitigation/compensation area/s is/are not owned by the applicant, you must have consent from the relevant land owner(s). You must have also secured details of how any measures to maintain the population in the long term will be achieved (e.g. a legal agreement).

F1 Declaration Statement(s) – You must include the following declarations within your Method Statement and include the appropriate answer (Yes/No/Not applicable):

F1.1 Re: section E1 - I confirm that relevant landowner consent/s has/have been granted to accept bats into roosts or access into roosts on land outside the applicant's ownership:

Yes

F2.2 Re: section E2 - I confirm that landownership consent/s has/have been granted to allow the creation of the proposed compensation on land outside the applicant's ownership

Yes

F2.3 Re: section E3 - I confirm that consent/s has/have been granted by the relevant landowner/s for monitoring, management and maintenance purposes on land outside the applicant's ownership

Yes

Comments if applicable:

Important Advice:

Unsecured consents statement:

If you have been unable to secure consents for any of the three declarations please explain why and detail any plans you have in place to obtain the consent(s) or provide details of any right(s) or agreement(s) that will enable the lawful implementation of the proposed mitigation, compensation and monitoring. Failure to provide the appropriate landowner consents means that the Method Statement is unlikely to meet the requirements for the FCS test to be met. It is therefore in your interest to ensure that the appropriate consents have been secured *before* applying for a licence.

G References: List any references cited, and include credits for source information.

H Annexes (supporting documents please append to your application pack)

H1 Pre-existing survey reports;

H2 Raw survey data.

I Check list of figures to be submitted with each Bat Method Statement

With your Method Statement and supporting documents please submit the following maps/figures – see table below. Note that some can be included within the Method Statement itself (if preferred) and others must be submitted individually (i.e. separate documents). Maps/Figures must include the title, site name as referenced on your application form, date and figure reference. If a grid reference is more applicable (e.g. a bat house is being provided please included this). Include a scale bar (appropriate to the situation e.g. 100m on site maps, 1km on location maps) and direction of North etc.

Additional maps, photographs or diagrams should be included where necessary to adequately explain the scheme.

Figure reference	Mandatory as will be included in the annexed licence, if applicable	Mandatory for assessment purpose only, but will not be included in the annexed licence	What it must show (also see details above on site reference, dating and naming).
Figure B2.1	-	Yes, if the application is part of a phased or multi-plot development	Master plan overview- note – this is not the same as a master plan document, for which you should follow the guidance as stated in section B2.1.
Figure B2.2	-	Yes, if applicable	Locations of other nearby bat licensed sites, or sites which will be impacted on by future development.
Figure C5a	-	Yes	Location map at an appropriate scale for the application (often 1:50,000 or 1:25,000)
Figure C5b	-	Yes	Survey area showing all buildings, structures and habitats that are within the survey area and distinguishing those that were surveyed and those that were not. Indicate where surveyors were located for each of the surveys and their respective field of view. Aerial photographs should be provided where possible (ensure you have permission to use copy righted maps). If automated detectors and/or transect routes were used, ensure that these are indicated (as appropriate).
Figure C6	-	Yes	Survey results - provide clear, annotated and cross-referenced maps/plans/photographs to show the survey results (access points, location of roosts, flight lines, results of activity surveys where DNA samples were taken etc). Ensure the Figure is at a suitable scale to show the results. If presenting

			multiple survey results on a single Figure, ensure the results are clearly differentiated.
Figure D	Yes	-	Impacts plan – map/figure which must show all structures or habitats (clearly referenced) that will be disturbed, damaged or destroyed, detailing where the roosts and access points are.
Figure E2	Yes – but only if applicable to the application	-	Non-standard capture and exclusion apparatus. If these are proposed please include diagrams/photographs.
Figure E3	Yes	-	Specifications for mitigation / compensation (including all dimensions for bat lofts/houses/stand-alone structures and materials to be used etc and 8-figure grid reference). Mitigation / compensation (must show all habitat creation, restoration, boxes). It may be necessary to submit more than 1 figure if the proposal is large or complicated.
Figure E4	Yes – when monitoring and maintenance will be included in the licence	-	Monitoring, management and maintenance map. Please indicate the specific structures and habitat that are to be managed, maintained and monitored as part of this licence proposal. Ensure that they are correctly referenced and are consistent with other parts of the Method Statement and figures.

Definitions of roost types to be included in the application (further detail can also be found in the Bat Mitigation Guidelines and the BCT's "Bat Surveys Good Practice Guidelines"):

- a. **Day roost:** a place where individual bats, or small groups of males, rest or shelter in the day but are rarely found by night in the summer.
- b. **Night roost:** a place where bats rest or shelter in the night but are rarely found in the day. May be used by a single individual on occasion or it could be used regularly by the whole colony.
- c. **Feeding roost:** a place where individual bats or a few individuals rest or feed during the night but are rarely present by day.
- d. **Transitional / occasional roost:** used by a few individuals or occasionally small groups for generally short periods of time on waking from hibernation or in the period prior to hibernation.
- e. **Swarming site:** where large numbers of males and females gather during late summer to autumn. Appear to be important mating sites
- f. **Mating sites:** sites where mating takes place from later summer and can continue through winter.
- g. **Maternity roost:** where female bats give birth and raise their young to independence.
- h. **Hibernation roost:** where bats may be found individually or together during winter. They have a constant cool temperature and high humidity. Sites where hibernating bats have been confirmed by appropriate survey effort should be classed as '**hibernation confirmed**'.
- i. **Satellite roost:** an alternative roost found in close proximity to the main nursery colony used by a few individual breeding females to small groups of breeding females throughout the breeding season.
- j. **Other** – please explain what the roost type is if not one of the above (we recognise that roost types are interchangeable and not always easy to classify according to the nuances of certain species).
- k. An '**alternative roost**' shall include: a purposely installed bat box; an existing roost which will not be impacted by the works; or other new/enhanced roosting opportunities. Any alternative roost must be suitable for the species, within or close to the existing roost and free from additional disturbance or development pressure.