

Bat Emergence and Re-Entry Surveys (BERS)

Survey site:

52 Sandon Road, Stoke On Trent, ST11 9RB

Client:

Richard Bellis

Report date:

30th May 2024

Project:

This report is prepared to inform a planning application for the proposal described as:
“The demolition of the existing dwelling and construction of a new residential dwelling.”

This report is supplementary to the Preliminary Roost Assessment and Ecological Appraisal report completed by Arbtech Consulting Ltd (2023).

BERS survey methodology and legislation can be found in the Arbtech Supplement: [BERS Methodology and Legislation - 2024.](#)

This report is an addendum to and must be read in conjunction with the Preliminary Roost Assessment and Ecological Appraisal completed by Arbtech Consulting Limited (2023) for the same site address and client.

This table may include further work you will need to commission (if any) to obtain planning permission or comply with legislation for other consent. All clients are expected to read and understand this section, or to contact the lead surveyor for advice.

Executive Summary

The surveys undertaken to date have concluded a likely absence of roosting bats. No bats were observed emerging from the building during the emergence survey. No evidence of bats was found during the preliminary assessment survey. Consequently, no impacts on bats or their roosts are foreseen.

The site surveys were designed and managed by Sally Hall BSc (Hons), Consultant Ecologist, (accredited on Natural England Class 2 Bat Licence 2022-10404-CL18-BAT).

See surveyor locations in the BERS plan in Appendix 1, Location plan in Appendix 2, Proposed development in Appendix 3.

<i>Limitations</i>	Surveyor 1 was near to a heavily trafficked road, where cars were causing regular disturbance to the bat detectors and to the IR footage. The footage from the IR camera 4 facing B2 had corrupted and was not retrievable, however the surveyor was also watching the elevation and would have observed any emergences or activity as this IR was manned alongside the surveyor.
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Field Survey		
Dusk Emergence Survey		
<i>Surveyor and position</i>	Lead Surveyor 1 – Sally Hall – Accredited Agent on Natural England Class 2 Bat Licence 2022-10404-CL18-BAT – observing the east elevation Surveyor 2 – David Brookes – 4 years bat survey experience – observing the west elevation Unmanned IR – observing the south elevation	
<i>Weather (start/end)</i>	Temperature (°C): 12 Relative humidity (%): 82 Cloud cover (%): 100 Wind (km/h): 3 Rain: None	Temperature (°C): 11 Relative humidity (%): 85 Cloud cover (%): 100 Wind (km/h): 6 Rain: None
<i>Equipment used</i>	Echometer Touch 2, Magenta 4, Elekon Batscanner, 6 x Nightfox XB5 Pro IR torch and hand-held radios. (fix as appropriate)	
Date of survey	25/05/2024	
Start, end and sunset time	Start: 20:58 Sunset: 21:13 Finish: 22:43	

Results (B1)		
Surveyor observations		
<i>Surveyor 1</i>	No emergences The first activity observed was a silent pass by a common pipistrelle. The bat passed east to west over B1. No echolocation was recorded, but this was observed by the surveyor and recorded on the IR.	N/A

	A direct pass by a common pipistrelle was recorded at 22:00. The bat arrived from the south and continued east. Two common pipistrelles were heard but not seen at 22:22 and 22:30. No further activity was recorded. A bird was seen entering the ivy at the start of the survey and did not leave, and is assumed to be nesting within the ivy.	
<i>IR position 1</i>	The footage reflected the view of surveyor 1.	
<i>Surveyor 2</i>	No emergences The first activity recorded was at 21:41 which was a common pipistrelle silently passing overhead of the surveyor flying west. No echolocation was recorded, but this was observed by the surveyor and recorded on the IR. A pass from a common pipistrelle was recorded at 22:05 using the same flight path as previous bat. At 22:09, some foraging activity was recorded and observed by a single common pipistrelle bat in the garden	N/A

	to the rear. The final activity recorded was a pass by a common pipistrelle bat. The bat was heard not seen. No further activity was recorded. Surveyor 2 also had a clear view of the northern elevation of B2 due to their location within the garden, where no emergences from B2 were observed.	
<i>IR position 2</i>	The footage reflected the view of surveyor 2.	

<i>Unmanned IR position 3</i>	The footage was reviewed in full and no activity was recorded on the unmanned IR camera.	
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Results (B2)		
Surveyor and position	Surveyor 1 – Oliver Dodd – 2 years bat survey experience – observing the south and east elevations	
Surveyor observations		
Surveyor 3	No emergencies. The first activity recorded was a silent pass by a common pipistrelle bat at 21:41. The bat passed east to west over the roof of B1. A pass by a common pipistrelle was recorded at 22:09. The followed the same path as the previous bat observed.. Between 22:29 and 22:40, intermittent activity was recorded by a common pipistrelle, all of which was passes that were heard but not seen. No further activity was recorded.	N/A
IR position 4	Not available – footage was lost during upload.	N/A

Conclusions, Impacts and Recommendations	
<i>Survey Results Summary</i>	A likely absence of roosting bats is confirmed from B1 and B2. No bats were seen emerging from the buildings, and limited activity was observed within the vicinity during the survey. Common pipistrelles were seen passing above B1 and foraging briefly in the rear garden above surveyor 3. The ivy on the eastern elevation will need to be removed outside of nesting bird season, as an unidentified bird was seen nesting within the ivy.
<i>Impact Assessment</i>	Bats are very unlikely to be roosting within these buildings and as such, there are not anticipated to be any impacts on bats as a result of the proposed development.
<i>Recommendations</i>	In the unlikely event that a bat or evidence of bats is discovered during the development all work must stop and a bat licensed ecologist contacted for further advice.
<i>Enhancements</i>	The installation of two bat boxes at the site will provide additional roosting habitat for bats. The bat boxes will be installed on the new dwelling once works have been completed. Bat boxes should be positioned 3-5m above ground level facing in a south or south-westerly direction with a clear flight path to and from the entrance, away from artificial light. The bat box will be a specification suitable for crevice dwelling species such as: • Beaumaris bat box • Vivara Pro bat box • or a similar alternative brand. Alternatively, bat boxes could be incorporated into the new dwelling e.g. Habibat Bat Box

	Vivara Pro Woodstone Bat Tubes Or similar alternative brand. Bat tubes should be inserted into the fabric of the building during construction, positioned 3-5m above ground level facing in a south or south-westerly direction with a clear flight path to and from the entrance and facing landscapes areas, away from artificial light.
<i>Nesting birds</i>	As a bird was seen nesting within the ivy on the eastern elevation The nestlings will need to have fledged and the nest needs to be disused before it can be disturbed. The removal of the ivy from B1 and B2 must be undertaken outside the period 1st March to 31st August. If this timeframe cannot be avoided, a close inspection of the vegetation should be undertaken immediately, , prior to the commencement of work. All active nests will need to be retained until the young have fledged. Please see PEA/PRA report for enhancements for birds.

Appendix 1: BERS plan



Appendix 2: Site location



Appendix 3: Proposed development



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Version control			
Status	Issue	Name	Date
Draft	1	Sally Hall BSc (Hons), Consultant Ecologist	30/05/2024
Proof	1.1	Josephine McCarthy, Consultant Ecologist, [Natural England Bat Licence Number: 2019-41480-CLS-CLS (CL18 Level 2)]	03/06/2024
Final	2.0	Sally Hall BSc (Hons), Consultant Ecologist	03/06/2024