

Bat Emergence and Re-Entry Surveys (BERS)

Survey site:

Premier Inn Liverpool (Tarbock), Wilson Rd, Tarbock Green, Liverpool, L36 6AD

Client:

Whitbread Group PLC

Report date:

19th June 2024

Project:

This report is prepared to inform a planning application for the proposal described as:

The two-storey extension of the hotel to include 25 new bedrooms, and an existing three ground floor bedrooms to be converted into a breakfast room.

This report is supplementary to the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Roost Assessment Survey report completed by Arbtech Consulting Ltd (2024).

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 Ecological Appraisal and Roost Assessment Survey Report completed by Arbtech Consulting Limited (2024) for the same site address and 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

No bat roosts were identified at the site. No bats were observed emerging from the buildings during the emergence survey and no evidence of bats was found during the preliminary roost assessment. Therefore, no impacts on bats or their roosts are anticipated.

The creation of additional habitat for bats is recommended in accordance with the local authorities' duty to request enhancements under the NPPF (2023).

A low impact lighting strategy should be adopted for the site following guidance from the Bat Conservation Trust: Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK' Guidance Note GN 08 / 23

<https://www.theilp.org.uk/documents/guidance-note-8-bats-and-artificial-lighting/>

The site surveys were designed and managed by David Hill-Chambers BSc (Hons) MSc Assistant Ecologist

See surveyor locations in the **BERS plan in Appendix 1.**

Limitations

There was security lighting directly under the eaves on the northern elevation during both visits. However, as bat commuting activity was observed after the onset of this lighting, it is not deemed a significant limitation.

Field Survey							
Dusk Emergence Survey 1							
Building B1							
<i>Building inspection prior to survey</i>		The building was subject to an internal inspection by Arbtech Ltd in 2024. No evidence of bats was found. Please refer to the Preliminary Roost Assessment (Arbtech Ltd, May 2024). The building was assessed to provide moderate habitat value for roosting bats due to a low number of external features on the north elevation that could support crevice-dwelling bat species.					
<i>Surveyor and position</i>		Lead Surveyor 1 – Amber Williams– 2 years of bat survey experience- observing the northern elevation and roof structure of B1. Surveyor 2 – Sally Collier – 1 years of bat survey experience – observing the eastern and southern elevation and roof structure of B1.					
<i>Weather (start/end)</i>		Temperature (°C): 20 Relative humidity (%): 59 Cloud cover (%): 100 Wind (m/s): 0 Rain: None			Temperature (°C): 16 Relative humidity (%): 70 Cloud cover (%): 60 Wind (m/s): 0 Rain: None		
<i>Equipment used</i>		Echometer Touch, Batbox Duet, 3 x IR camera (Nightfox Whisker), 6 x IR torches (Nightfox XB5 Pro IR torch) and 2 x hand-held radios.					
Results							
Date of survey	Start, end and sunset time	Species and numbers	Roost type	Structure reference	Roost location	Access points	Dimensions and explanation of roost location
17.05.2024	Sunset: 21:09 20:54 – 22:39	NA	NA	B1	NA	NA	NA
Surveyor observations							

<i>Surveyor 1</i>	No emergences: The first activity observed was a pass by a common pipistrelle which commuted from the north site boundary, passed over the building ridge to the south at 21:37. At 21:39 a common pipistrelle passed from northeast elevation to the north. At 21:43 a noctule was observed commuting along the treeline to the northeast site boundary. The final activity was a direct pass by a common pipistrelle at 21:55. The bat was observed commuting from the northeast to north site boundary. No further bat activity was observed.	
<i>IR position</i>	The footage reflected the view of surveyor 1. No additional bat activity was captured on camera.	

<i>Surveyor 2</i>	No emergencies: First bat activity was a common pipistrelle which was heard but not seen at 21:37. There was consistent foraging activity from common pipistrelles observed in front of the eastern elevation between 21:43-21:57. Final bat activity was a common pipistrelle foraging, which was heard but not seen at 21:57. No other bat activity was recorded. The first bat activity, a common pipistrelle, was heard but not seen at 21:37. Consistent foraging activity from common pipistrelles was observed in front of the eastern elevation between 21:43 and 21:57. The final bat activity was a common pipistrelle foraging, heard but not seen, at 21:57. No other bat activity was recorded.	
<i>IR position</i>	The footage reflected the view of surveyor 2. No additional bat activity was captured on camera.	

Field Survey							
Dusk Emergence Survey 2							
Building B1							
Surveyor and position		Lead Surveyor 1 – Amber Williams– 2 years of bat survey experience- observing the northern elevation and roof structure of B1. Surveyor 2 – Sally Collier – 1 years of bat survey experience – observing the eastern and southern elevation and roof structure of B1.					
Weather (start/end)		Temperature (°C): 20 Relative humidity (%): 34 Cloud cover (%): 10 Wind (m/s): 0 Rain: None			Temperature (°C): 12 Relative humidity (%): 53 Cloud cover (%): 50 Wind (m/s): 0 Rain: None		
Equipment used		Echometer Touch, Batbox Duet, 3 x IR camera (Nightfox Whisker), 6 x IR torches (Nightfox XB5 Pro IR torch) and 2 x hand-held radios.					
Results							
Date of survey	Start, end and sunset time	Species and numbers	Roost type	Structure reference	Roost location	Access points	Dimensions and explanation of roost location
11.06.2024	Sunset: 21:38 21:23 – 23:08	NA	NA	B1	NA	NA	NA
Surveyor observations							

<i>Surveyor 1</i>	No emergencies: First activity was a common pipistrelle bat pass which was heard but not seen at 21:47. There was a common pipistrelle foraging above the grassland, above the surveyor, and along the treeline to the northeast boundary between 21:50-21:55. The final bat activity was a pass by a common pipistrelle which was heard but not seen at 22:20. No further bat activity was observed.	
<i>IR position</i>	The footage reflected the view of surveyor 1. No additional bat activity was captured on camera.	

<i>Surveyor 2</i>	No emergences: First activity was a common pipistrelle which commuted southwest to northeast across the site at 21:47. Common pipistrelles were then seen and heard foraging around the building intermittently from 21:50-22:00. Two further passes by common pipistrelles were seen at 22:11 and 22:34. The final activity was a pass by a common pipistrelle at 22:44. The bat was heard but not seen. No other bat activity was recorded.	
<i>IR position</i>	The footage reflected the view of surveyor 2. No additional bat activity was captured on camera.	

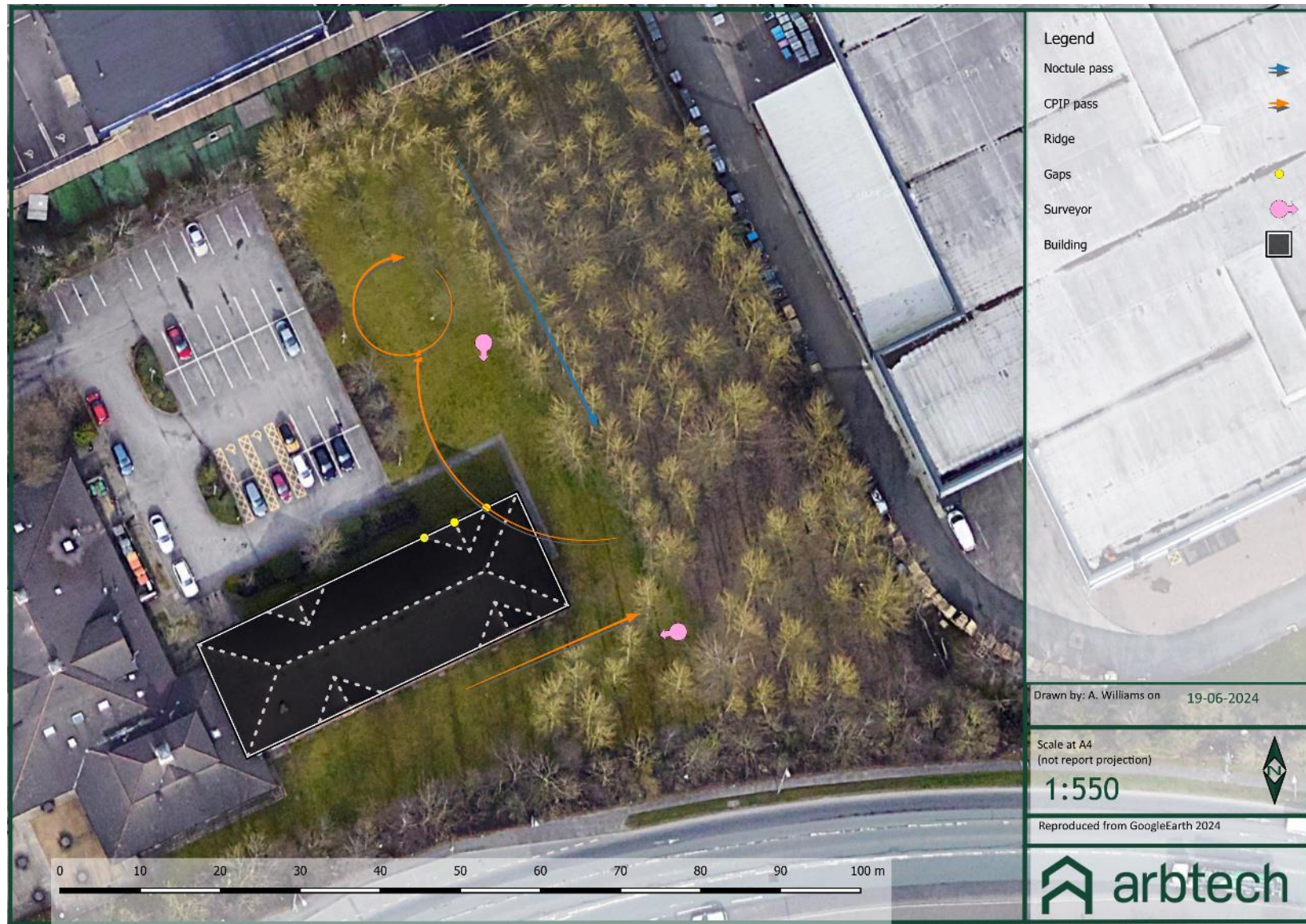
Conclusions, Impacts and Recommendations	
<i>Survey Results Summary</i>	There were no bats recorded emerging from the buildings during this survey. There was minimal commuting activity from common pipistrelles and noctules observed. This activity was focused along the front of the eastern and southern elevation and towards the treeline along the eastern site boundaries.
<i>Impact Assessment</i>	Bats are very unlikely to be roosting within this building and as such, there are not anticipated to be any impacts on bats because 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 immediately, and a bat licensed ecologist contacted for further advice. <u>Bat lighting</u> Common pipistrelle bats were observed commuting and foraging along the eastern site boundary. Additional light spill onto this elevation could deter bats from foraging and commuting. However, considering the current scope of the works, no significant increase is anticipated. Any future lighting schemes should follow guidance from the Bat Conservation Trust. • As common pipistrelle bats were observed commuting and foraging along the eastern site boundary, further light spill on to this elevation should be avoided so as not to deter use of this flight corridor. • Use narrow spectrum light sources to lower the range of species affected by lighting. • Use light sources that emit minimal ultra-violet light. • Avoid white and blue wavelengths of the light spectrum to reduce insect attraction and where white light sources are required to manage the blue shortwave length content they should be of a warm / neutral colour temperature <4,200 kelvin.

	• Not use bare bulbs and any light pointing upwards. The spread of light will be kept in line with or below the horizontal. • Light spill will be reduced via the use of low-level lighting used in conjunction with hoods, cowls, louvers and shields. Lights will also be directional to ensure that light is directed to the intended areas only. • External lighting will be on PIR sensors that are sensitive to large objects only (so that they are not triggered by passing bats) and will be set to the shortest time duration to reduce the amount of time the lights are on. Wall lights and security lights will be 'dimnable' and set to the lowest light intensity settings. There are several products on the market that allow the control of the light intensity and the duration that the lights are on. All lighting on the developed site will make use of the most up to date technology available.
<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 building post construction. 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. Additional enhancements could include the planting of night-scented flowers in the proposed vegetated garden. This could include species such as evening primrose, honeysuckle, sweet rocket and night-scented catchfly. The bat boxes will be a specification suitable for common pipistrelle bats such as the Beaumaris Woodstone Bat Box or a similar alternative brand.

Version control			
Status	Issue	Name	Date

Draft	1	Amber Williams MSc, BSc (Hons), Assistant Ecologist	19/06/2024
Review	1.1	Josephine McCarthy, Consultant Ecologist, [Natural England Bat Licence Number: 2019-41480-CLS-CLS (CL18 Level 2)]	19/06/2024
Final	2	David Hill-Chambers MSc BSc (Hons), Assistant Ecologist	20/06/2024

Appendix 1: BERS plan



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