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Moredale Childrens Home, 18 Livingston Drive, Liverpool, L17 4LR
National Grid Reference: SJ 37211 87273

Mitigation in Relation to Bats and Additional Information in Response to MEAS

Prepared for:

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1.0 Background

- 1.1 From the evidence gained during the 2016 dusk/dawn observations, the use of the building by bats is considered to be of low level conservation value in the form of a Common Pipistrelle day roost. (Natural England: Mitigation Guidelines 2004) and the proposed mitigation is proportionate to that use. However; if at anytime that assessment is revised to a higher level then the mitigation will also be accordingly revised.
- 1.2 At the time of report writing (2016) the final proposals for the site were unknown and mitigation was indicative; drawings have now been made available, therefore mitigation for the single bat roost comprising of one Common Pipistrelle bat that was located at Moredale Home is now confirmed.
- 1.3 Natural England the Statutory Nature Conservation Authority as part of their functions, in terms of European Protected Species Mitigation Licence, (EPSML) requires mitigation to be proportionate and not contain “over mitigation.” If the LPA require “enhancement” as part of Local Biodiversity Policies this should be included in the terms of Planning Consent, which would also be shown as such within the licence application pack. The acting bat ecologist, Mr S Irwin, who has over 15 years experience relative to the successful submission of numerous EPSML deems the mitigation as appropriate and not over and above what is required. It should be noted that before an EPSML application is submitted up to date dusk/dawn surveys will be required as the last surveys were undertaken in 2016.

2.0 Mitigation

- 2.1 The Favourable Conservation Status of the single Common Pipistrelle day roost will be mitigated by way of the following, which was contained in the “indicative” mitigation. (Tyrrer Partnership Report 2016)
 - To ensure that bats are not left without a roost while the demolition work and construction of the new buildings takes place, one 2F bat box will erected on a tree within the site boundary (suitable tree to be established by the ecologist). The box will be indefinitely retained during and after the work schedule and will also act as a receptor if bat/s have to be captured during the pre-demolition inspection.
 - No significant foraging habitat to the rear of the site to be lost as a result of the proposals; the landscaping plan (Figure 1) indicates the loss of two trees. The new roost will not be at any further distance from those foraging places; mitigation proposals relative to the status of the roost are seen to be the most productive way forward that will retain opportunities for the single crevice dwelling Pipistrelle bat.
 - The ecologist will supervise careful dismantling of all places identified as offering roost potential where exclusion is unlikely to be successful and cannot be relied upon with strategies for safely removing bat/s. This is standard procedure as part of a EPSML strategy.
 - Work undertaken when bats are not likely to be in hibernation i.e. from November- March inclusive unless it can be conclusively established by a bat ecologist that hibernating bats are absent.
 - Ecologist to undertake induction on possible bat presence, Mitigation License to be kept on site for the duration of the work

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- External lighting where proposed is to be directed away from bat roost access points, flight paths and foraging areas such as the tree lines identified to the south of building where foraging was recorded.
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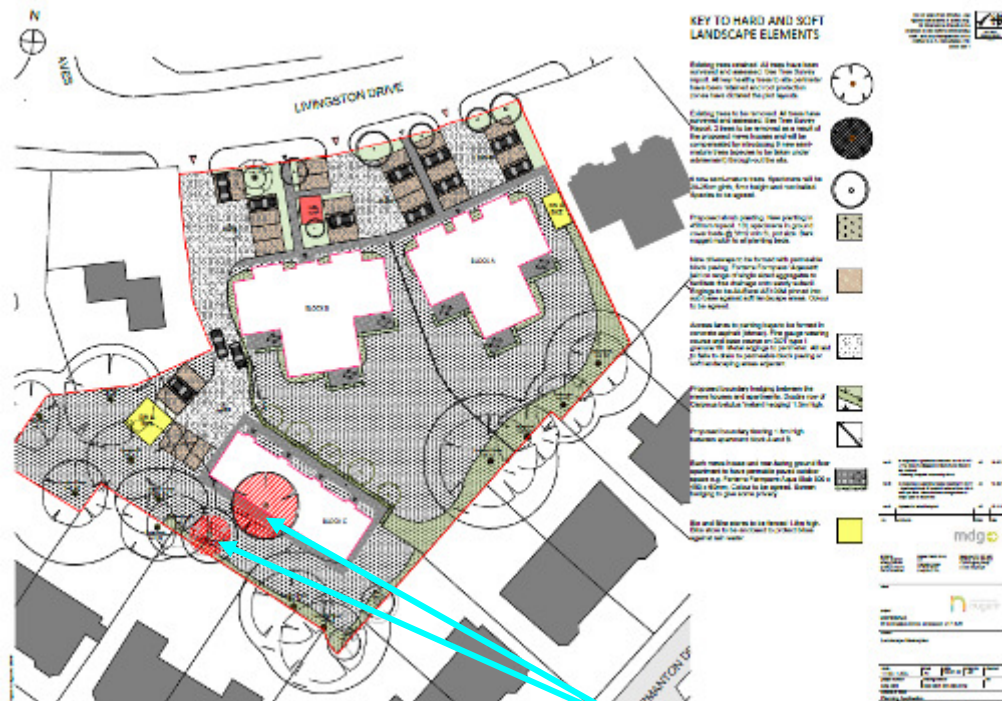


Figure 1: Landscaping plan showing trees to be removed

New Roost Creation:

Roost provision will be incorporated by way of a single integral bat box within Block C at the south east elevation where there will be the opportunity to have less illumination than other parts of the site and less disturbance. Figures 2 & 3 show location of the bat box, Figure 4 shows the bat box.



Figure 2

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Figure 3: Location of integral bat box

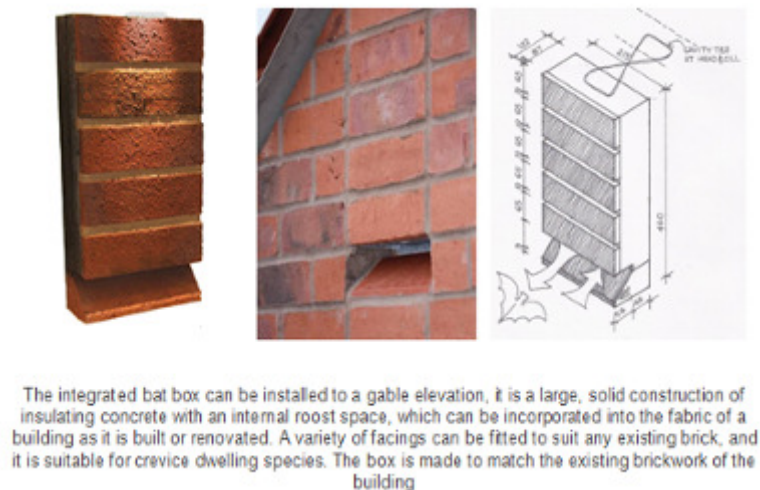


Figure 4: Integral bat box (Bats & Buildings: Bat Conservation Trust: Bats & the Built Environment Series (2012))

3.0 Conclusion

3.1 The mitigation proposed is proportionate to the status of the single roost i.e. low conservation value. (Natural England: Mitigation Guidelines 2004)

- The created roost provision at the proposed development will be permanent; it will be installed in a location that will not be less accessed by day to day activities and illumination, if required can be to minimum levels and therefore disturbance is significantly reduced, furthermore management requirements of the roost are considered to be absent.
- Any maintenance that is required at or close to the bat box will be the responsibility of the owners. However, before any maintenance work is required at or close to the roost they will contact either Natural England or a bat ecologist for further advice. The status of the roost is classed as low conservation concern; therefore, there are no commitments relative to monitoring.

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4.0 Additional Information



SITE



Location of single bat dropping in B2 & 5 in B1

Droppings in B1 have no direct correlation with the emergence point

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Bat roost potential on the following elevations



B2 Gaps at concrete capping tiles (South elevation)

Note dead ivy bat roost potential absent

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B2 Gaps at concrete capping tiles facing east



B2 gaps at soffit boards (north elevation)

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B1 Missing & loose roof tiles (East elevation)



B1 gaps at roof tiles (East elevation)

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B1 Restrictive Loft



Open aspect of other B1 loft

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Truss roof in B2 loft



B2 Roof void in mono pitch roof

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Typical interior of B1 & 2

Following photographs represent typical tree species at the site. All were investigated as far as practical with the aid of close focussing binoculars for bat roost potential – no obvious potential was noted and all are considered to be of “Negligible” bat roost potential



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