

METHOD STATEMENT

The purpose of the below method statement is to ensure bats or their roosts are not harmed by the proposed removal of trees and their presence remains as unaffected as possible before, during and after the development phase. The risks posed by the development are considered to be “moderate”, with the implementation of a RAM’s method statement reducing this to low.

Pre-Development Phase:

Where surveys have assessed trees as possibly supporting roosting bats, it should be noted that due to the transient nature of bat roosts it is possible that crevice-dwelling bats (e.g. Pipistrelle), could utilise unidentified roosts beyond the date of the surveys. The contractor(s) should therefore be advised to carry out all work with care and vigilance for bats.

Development Phase:

The felling of trees, must be carried out in accordance with the following measures:

- Careful section-felling of the tree(s). The sectioning must avoid cutting through or close to any cavities, this is likely to involve climbing the tree; Immediately prior to works, the tree will be inspected by a licensed bat surveyor and subsequent section/soft felling will be completed under the supervision of a licensed bat surveyor.
- The sectioning must avoid cutting through or close to any cavities, this is likely to involve climbing the tree;
- Cut sections will be lowered to the ground with the use of ropes;
- Once on the ground the cavity will be inspected by the licensed bat surveyor and guidance issued; and
- Allow all felled sections to lie on the ground for 24 hours before removing Ivy and snedding (removing side branches).