
**Bat Nocturnal Surveys and
the Deployment of Static
Bat Detectors**

Parkhill Avenue, Crumpsall

Ref: P.1957.24

Date: November 2024

(See revision dates below)

Rev	Date	Details

Ascerta

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Reference	P.1957.24
Site	Parkhill Avenue, Crumpsall
Client	Great Places Housing Group
Date	November 2024
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, Ascerta has been instructed by **Great Places Housing Group** to carry out a bat emergence surveys and deploy static bat detectors at the land at Parkhill Avenue, Crumpsall (hereafter referred to as **the site**).

Very low levels of bat activity were recorded throughout the bat activity surveys and static deployment, with common pipistrelle, noctule and natterer's bat species found using the site for commuting and foraging. Activity was predominately concentrated to the southeast of the site, where habitats are to be retained and enhanced.

The site is to be further enhanced with the addition of two banked landscape areas in the north and centre of the site and these areas are connected by the habitats where bat activity was highest.

Due to the very low levels of bat activity recorded throughout the surveys, and areas of key commuting and foraging habitat to be retained and enhanced, it is considered that there will no adverse impact on bats provided the recommendations below are followed:

- If works are not begun by November 2026, a further daytime assessment or nocturnal survey may be required to confirm bats are not using the trees (T2 and T3) as a roost;
- Tree removal works should not be undertaken during the bird breeding season (between 1st March and 31st August) or a nesting bird check will be required by a suitably experienced ecologist; and
- Enhancing the site for species through appropriate landscape planting that includes native, species rich hedgerows, trees and areas of wildflowers plus provision of integrated bat and bird features within newly constructed buildings.

1.0 Introduction

Ascerta has been instructed by **Great Places Housing Group** to carry out bat emergence surveys and deploy a static bat detector at the land of Parkhill Avenue, Crumpsall (hereafter referred to as the site). The site OS grid reference is SD 84940 02726 and the What3Words reference is slot.sushi.suffer. The extent of the site is displayed in photograph 1.1 below.



Photograph 1.1; Site Extent

Site Description

The site comprises an area of semi-natural broadleaved woodland, improved grassland, semi-natural mixed woodland, bramble scrub and species-poor hedgerows.

Client Proposals

Our client seeks planning consent to construct residential dwellings, an apartment building, associated access road and parking.

Previous Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

The site was visited on 27th February 2024 by Alex Rose when a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, which includes an assessment of the potential for protected species to be using the site or surroundings, was carried out in accordance with the *Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: A Technique for Environmental Audit* (JNCC, 2010). The report was prepared following methods detailed in the CIEEM '*Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland*' (2018) and '*Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing*' (2017).

During this assessment, it was found that trees TN2 and TN3 had **moderate** potential for roosting bats. The semi-natural broadleaved woodland, semi-natural mixed woodland and scrub habitats were suitable for commuting and foraging bats.

Survey Report

This report was prepared following methods detailed in the CIEEM '*Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland*' (2018) and '*Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing*' (2017).

This report presents the results of the bat survey's undertaken following the guidelines set out by the Bat Conservation Trust (Collins 4th Edition 2023).

The report includes recommendations for further actions where applicable in order to satisfy current wildlife legislation and to achieve our client's objectives. Relevant legislation is detailed within Appendix 4.

2.0 Objectives

Our client's objectives are to ascertain the potential ecological constraints and opportunities of the site.

Our objectives are as follows:

- Carry out nocturnal bat surveys of trees TN2 and TN3 within the site;
- Deploy a static bat detector within the site for five consecutive nights each month from April-October;
- Provide recommendations for mitigation measures where current legislation requires;
- Provide recommendations that seek to enhance the ecological value of the site; and
- Provide recommendations to assist our clients in achieving their objectives whilst satisfying current wildlife legislation.

3.0 Survey Methods

The following bat surveys were undertaken following the guidelines set out by the Bat Conservation Trust (Collins 4th Edition 2023).

3.1 Desk Study

The local biological records centre Greater Manchester Ecology Unit (GMEU) was consulted for records of bats within 2km of the site in February 2024. A review of the designated sites, habitats and presence of European Protected Species Licences (EPSL) within 2km of the site was undertaken using the Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) and the Natural England websites. The full results are given in *P.1957.24 Ascerta preliminary Ecological Appraisal, Parkhill Avenue, Crumpsall, Mar 2024*, which should be read in conjunction to this report. Only findings relating to bats are detailed in this report.

Any European Protected Species Licence (EPSL) applications within 2km of the site were also searched for and detailed in Section 4.1.

3.2 Bat Emergence Survey Methods

During Bat Emergence and Re-entry surveys, surveyors were strategically positioned around trees TN2 and TN3 (drawings P.1957.24.E04 Nocturnal Bat Survey 16.05.24 and P.1957.24.E05 Nocturnal Bat Survey 13.06.24, Appendix 1), focussing on areas where potential access points had been identified during the Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment to observe any bats leaving or entering a roost. These were recorded, and any emergences/re-entries are identified on drawings in Appendix 1. Surveyors also recorded any general bat activity whilst on the site during the surveys.

The dusk emergence survey on the 16th May 2024 commenced 15 minutes before sunset and continue until 1 hour and 30 minutes after sunset.

The dusk emergence survey on the 13th June 2024 commenced 15 minutes before sunset and continue until 1 hour and 30 minutes after sunset.

During the survey, the following details were noted:

- Weather and temperature;
- Time bat detected / seen and if they emerged from or entered the building;
- Frequency at which the bat was detected;
- Location of bats and if they were foraging and commuting;
- Direction of flight; and
- Number and species of bats present.

3.3 Static Bat Detector Methods

One Anabat Express bat detector with directional microphones was deployed within the site. Recordings took place over five consecutive nights per month, in suitable weather conditions for bats, between April 2024 and October 2024, inclusive (the location is marked on drawings *P.1957.24.E04 Nocturnal Bat Survey 16.05.24* and *P.1957.24.E05 Nocturnal Bat Survey 13.06.24*, Appendix 1.

The Static Bat Detector was set to begin recording, 30 minutes prior to sunset and until 30 minutes after sunrise for each consecutive night. Detectors were set to use an automatic trigger with threshold and sensitivity for the detection of bat calls.

3.4 Surveyor and Equipment Information

Table 3.4: Survey equipment used by the surveyors during bat survey emergence surveys on 16th May 2024 and 13th June 2024.

Date	Surveyors	Equipment
16 th May 2024	Alex Rose Jack Kay	Echo Meter Touch 2 (EMT2) connected to android phone. EMT2 connected to android tablet.
On the 16 th May 2024 both surveyors were equipped with Nightfox Whisker cameras.		
13 th June 2024	Alex Rose Jack Kay	Echo Meter Touch 2 (EMT2) connected to android phone. EMT2 connected to android tablet.
On the 13 th June 2024, both surveyors were equipped with Nightfox Whisker cameras.		

3.5 Data Collection and Analysis

During bat emergence surveys, surveyors collected bat call data on their respective equipment (see Section 3.5). Bat call data was analysed using Kaleidoscope to verify species.

For static detector analysis, a ‘bat pass’ was defined as two or more bat calls in a continuous sequence, up to 10 seconds duration. Sound files longer than 10 seconds were split using Anabat Insight Analysis Software. Files in Waveform Audio File Format (April) were converted in software kaleidoscope and into zero crossing files and reviewed in software Analook. All other call were analysed using Anabat Insight Analysis Software to verify species. Bat passes were recorded throughout the deployment of the static detectors.

Bat passes were recorded throughout the deployment of the static detectors.

Bat Passes Per hour (Bat PPH) was calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Bat PPH} = \frac{\text{Total bat passes recorded at location}}{\text{Total number of hours unit operation}}$$

Temperature, wind speed/direction and cloud cover were recorded at the beginning and end of the survey, along with any significant weather changes during the surveys (e.g. heavy showers).

3.6 Limitations

The surveys were undertaken during the appropriate time of year and within suitable weather conditions.

The absence of biological data records does not necessarily mean the absence of species. This has been taken into account within the conclusions of the report.

4.0 Survey Results

4.1 Desk Study

Records for common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, and unknown bat species were returned within 2km of the site.

Two European Protected Species Licences (EPSL) application within 2km of the site since 2016 was identified using Magic Maps;

- 2014-1364-EPS-BDX for common pipistrelle. Strat date: 01/10/2014, end date: 31/03/2015 (1.1km northwest); and
- 2014-1562-EPS-BDX for the impact and destruction of a breeding and resting site for common pipistrelle. Start date: 01/10/2014, end date: 31/03/2015 (1km northwest)

4.2 Survey Conditions

Weather Conditions

During each survey, the lead surveyor recorded weather conditions. The table below shows the weather conditions for each survey undertaken on the 16th May 2024 and 13th June 2024.

Table 4.1: Weather conditions

Survey date	Temp (°c)	Cloud Cover (°/8)	Wind (Beaufort Scale)	Precipitation
16 th May 2024 (start of survey)	15	8/8	F0	Dry
16 th May 2024 (end of survey)	15	8/8	F0	Dry
13 th June 2024 (start of survey)	14	8/8	F2	Dry
13 th June 2024 (end of survey)	14	8/8	F2	Dry

Survey Timings

The following table shows bat survey timings for all surveys undertaken on the 16th May 2024 and 13th June 2024.

Table 4.2: Survey timings

Survey Date	Dusk Time	Survey Start Time	Survey End Time
16 th May 2024	21:05	20:50	22:35
13 th June 2024	21:39	21:24	23:09

4.3 Bat Emergence surveys

Bat emergence surveys were undertaken on the 16th May 2024 and 13th June 2024 for the site. Detailed bat emergence survey data can be found in Appendix 2. Table 4.3 below details the key findings for the bat emergence surveys.

Table 4.3: Key findings regarding emergence surveys.

Survey Date	Species	Behaviour	Location and Surveyor
16 th May 2024	Common pipistrelle (<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>)	Commuting	Activity started at surveyor AR, located southeast of T3 at 21:11 (6 minutes after sunset) with heard not seen (HNS) commuting. Further HNS commuting was recorded at surveyor AR location at 21:27.
		Foraging	Activity started at surveyor AR location above the woodland at 21:12. Surveyor AR recorded foraging above the woodland at 21:21. Surveyor AR recorded continuous HNS foraging from 21:30-21:33, 21:35-21:50 and again from 21:53-22:25. Surveyor JK, located north of T2, recorded continuous foraging within the southeast woodland edge and the adjacent road from 21:30-21:32 (25 minutes after sunset), with HNS continuous foraging occurring at 21:36-21:48, 21:57-22:20 and again from 22:28-22:35.
	Noctule (<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>)	Commuting	HNS activity recorded at surveyor JK location at 22:00 (55 minutes after sunset).
Very low common pipistrelle and noctule activity was recorded within the wood during the survey. No bats were recorded emerging from T2 and T3 during the survey.			
13 th June 2024	Common pipistrelle (<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>)	Commuting	Activity started at surveyor AR, located southeast of T3, at 22:40 (1 hour and 1 minute after sunset) with HNS commuting. Further HNS commuting was recorded at surveyor AR location at 22:56 and 22:59. Surveyor JK, located north of T2, recorded HNS commuting at 22:58 (1 hour and 19 minutes after sunset).
Very low common pipistrelle activity was recorded within the wood during the survey. No bats were recorded emerging from T2 and T3 during the survey.			

4.4 Static Bat Detector surveys

Static bat detector surveys were undertaken each month between April 2024 and October 2024 for the site. Table 4.4 below details the species present, total passes and location of detector within the site.

Table 4.4: Static bat detector results.

Survey Date	Species	Total Passes	Location and Detector
22/04/2024-27/04/2024	No activity	N/A	Central woodland: see drawings P.1957.24.E04 Nocturnal Bat Survey 16.05.24 and P.1957.24.E05 Nocturnal Bat Survey 13.06.24, Appendix 1.
16/05/2024-21/05/2024	Common pipistrelle	47	
16/06/2024-21/06/2024	Common pipistrelle	301	
	Noctule	24	
	Myotis nattereri	1	
01/07/2024-05/07/2024	Common pipistrelle	292	
	Noctule	1	
	Myotis nattereri	1	
01/08/2024-05/08/2024	Common pipistrelle	2	
	Myotis nattereri	1	
06/09/2024-11/09/2024	Common pipistrelle	3	
02/10/2024-07/10/2024	Common pipistrelle	485	
	Noctule	1	

5.0 Evaluation and Recommendations

Based on the results of the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, habitats within the site were evaluated as having **moderate** potential for foraging and commuting bats. The nocturnal surveys and deployment of static bat detectors confirmed that the site is used predominately by common pipistrelle. Very low – low levels of noctule and natterer's bat foraging and commuting activity within the site was recorded and it considered that these species will not be adversely impacted by the proposed development due to the low activity levels recorded.

Activity was predominately concentrated to the southeast of the site within the woodland and along Delaunays Road. Current illustrative proposals indicate the habitats utilised by bats are to be retained and enhanced.

Bat passes peaked on 2nd October 2024 over the period of the operation of the static detector a total of 486 passes at the static detector in this location, 485 of which were common pipistrelle. Activity during the previous two periods (August and September) were very low in comparison. Therefore, it is considered these bat species will not be adversely impacted following the proposed development.

The main area of development lies within north and west areas of the site, where bat activity was predominately low. To reduce the impacts to bats and to maintain the sites value for foraging and commuting bats, any street lighting and lighting within public area should be kept to a minimum to meet the Bat Conservation Trust lighting guidelines, so as not to cause a detrimental effect to light sensitive species. It is further recommended that key commuting and foraging habitats, such as hedgerows, are retained and enhanced in these areas to provide connectivity through the site.

Based on the result of the daytime survey carried out in February 2024, two sycamore trees were assessed to provide **moderate** bat roost potential. Following the nocturnal emergence surveys at trees T2 and T3, it was confirmed that bats are not using these trees as a roost at the time of the surveys.

As such, works to trees T2 and T3 within the site can proceed without being detrimental to maintenance of the local bat population at a favourable conservation status (i.e. the proposals meet the third test of the 'three test assessment' as outlined in the Habitats Regulations). Features on the trees still have a potential for supporting bat roosts and bats are known to move roosts often. If works have not occurred by have not begun by November 2026, a further daytime assessment or nocturnal survey may be required to confirm bats are not using the buildings to roost.

6.0 Enhancements

In order to meet requirements for biodiversity protection and enhancement outlined within the NPPF, it is recommended that ecological enhancements are included. These could include:

1. Provision of six bird boxes (25mm and 32mm entrance hole box, house sparrow terrace, swift box), attached to or integrated within retained or new buildings on site;
2. Provision of six bat features (e.g. Vivara Pro WoodStone Bat box or similar) attached to a retained or new tree on site or provision of a bat box (e.g. Vivara bat bricks or '*bird brick houses*' bat boxes) integrated within new or retained buildings; and
3. Suitable landscaping incorporating species that provide a food or shelter resource to wildlife to include hawthorn, hazel, holly, blackthorn, field maple, dog rose and honeysuckle as hedgerow species and oak, alder, silver birch, crab apple, rowan and bird cherry as tree species together with implementing a relaxed mowing regime and establishing wildflowers in these areas.

7.0 Conclusions

Trees T2 and T3 were subject to two nocturnal bat surveys following the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal which classified the trees as having **moderate** bat roost potential. Very low bat activity was recorded during the bat surveys and no bats were seen to emerge or re-enter the trees. Therefore, it is considered that bats are not using the trees as a roost at the time of the surveys.

The following recommendations have been made to avoid impact on bats and birds during the works:

- If works are not begun by November 2026, a further daytime assessment or nocturnal survey may be required to confirm bats are not using the trees (T2 and T3) as a roost;
- Tree removal works should not be undertaken during the bird breeding season (between 1st March and 31st August), or a nesting bird check will be required by a suitably experienced ecologist; and
- Enhancing the site for species through appropriate landscape planting that includes native, species rich hedgerows, trees and areas of wildflowers plus provision of integrated bat and bird features within newly constructed buildings.

It is considered that there would be very limited impact on the local ecology as a result of the proposals, provided the recommendations detailed within section 5.0 above are followed.

8.0 References

Bat Conservation Trust (2018) *Bats and lighting in the UK- bats and the built environment series 08/18* Bat Conservation Trust, London.

CIEEM (2017) *Guidelines on Ecological Report Writing*. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester

CIEEM (2018) *Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine*. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.

CIEEM (2021) *Bat Mitigation Guidelines: A guide to impact assessment, mitigation and compensation for developments affecting bats. Beta version*.

Collins, J. (Ed.) (2023) *Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines* (4th edn). The Bat Conservation Trust, London.

Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC). *The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP)* [online] Available at: www.jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5155

Maddock, A. (2008). UK biodiversity action plan; priority habitat descriptions. *UK Biodiversity Action Plan*, 94pp.

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Governments (2023). *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)*. [online] Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) [online] Available at: [MAGIC \(defra.gov.uk\)](http://MAGIC.defra.gov.uk)

Appendix 1



Key

- Survey Area
- 16.05.24 Flight Lines
- Surveyor Locations
- Static Detector Location

Bat Roost Potential (BRP)

- Moderate BRP

DO NOT SCALE.
ALL COORDINATES RELATED TO LOCAL GRID.
LOCATED TO NG BY BEST FIT TO DETAIL.
EXTRACTED FROM OS DIGITAL DATA.

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CLIENT:
Great Places Housing Group

PROJECT:
Parkhill Avenue, Crumpsall

DRAWING TITLE:
Nocturnal Bat Survey 16.05.24

SCALE: NTS@A3	DRAWN BY: JK	DRAWING No: P.1957.24.E04
DATE: 12/11/2024	CHKD BY: LK	REV: -



Key

- Survey Area
- Surveyor Locations
- Static Detector Location

Bat Roost Potential (BRP)

- Moderate BRP

DO NOT SCALE.
ALL COORDINATES RELATED TO LOCAL GRID.
LOCATED TO NG BY BEST FIT TO DETAIL.
EXTRACTED FROM OS DIGITAL DATA.

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CLIENT:
Great Places Housing Group

PROJECT:
Parkhill Avenue, Crumpsall

DRAWING TITLE:
Nocturnal Bat Survey 13.06.24

SCALE: NTS@A3	DRAWN BY: JK	DRAWING No: P.1957.24.E05
DATE: 12/11/2024	CHKD BY: LK	REV: -

Appendix 2

Lead Surveyor Bat Survey Form



Site name/number:

Name: *ARL*

Date: *16 May*

Weather: *FB*

Building/tree reference:

Detector: *EMT*

Start

End

Surveyor names: *ARL + SK*

Camera: *NP2 + Sony*

Wind: *1*

Check list:

Dawn ☐ Dusk ☒

Temperature: *15*

- All lead surveyor details filled in ☒
- North arrow marked on map ☒
- Drawing/map named & dated ☒
- Surveyor positions marked on drawing ☒
- Photo taken at darkest point of survey ☒

Sunset/sunrise time: *21:05*

Precipitation: *0*

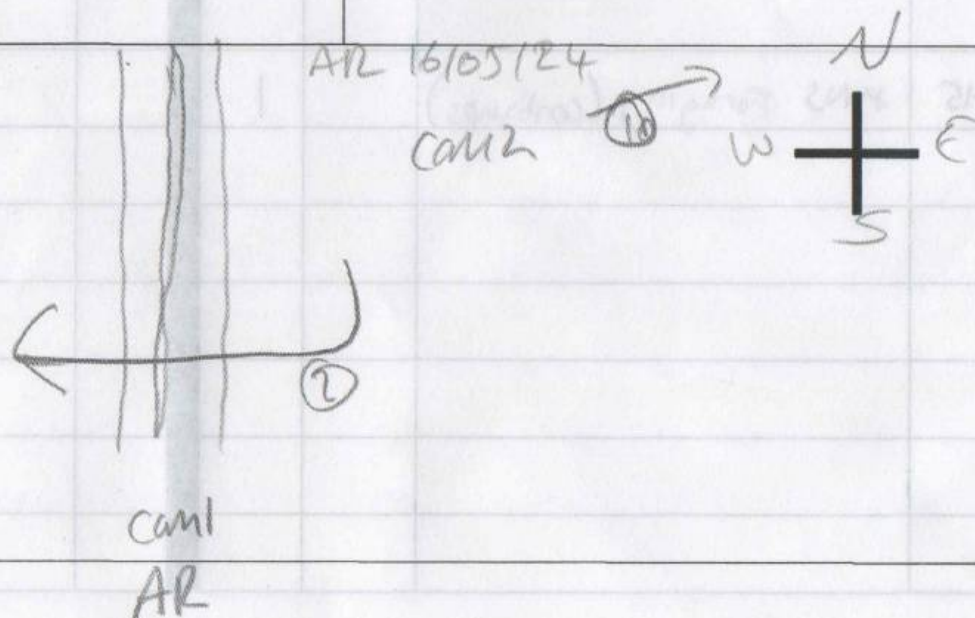
Survey start time: *20:50*

Cloud cover: *100*

Survey end time: *22:35*

Notes/ site information (limitations, access issues, lighting etc.)

Sketch plan view:



[illegible]

Site name/nurser: Barkhill AvSurveyor name: SKDate: 16/09/24Surrounding habitat: Scrubs/woodland/Detector type: EMTCamera number: NF6/ASC1

Surveyors checklist:

Completed all information at top of form ☒Drawed view point/marked an emergence ☒Added north arrow to comp ☒Photographed view point taken at start of survey ☒Recorded observations and completed summary ☒Photographed at the darkest point of the survey ☒

Sketch a view (mark on any emergence points and significant flight lines/arcs of activity):

Exposed
Bark

Summary:

Emergence (Circle): Yes ☐ No ☒ (If yes state number and species)

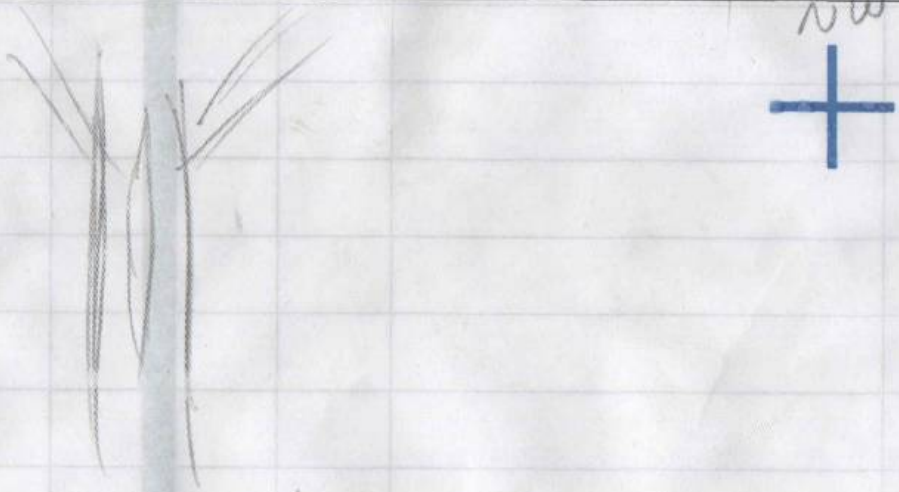
Overall activity level:

Very Low ☐Low ☐Medium ☒High ☐Constant ☐Social calling (Circle): Yes ☐ No ☒

[illegible]

Lead Surveyor Bat Survey Form



Site name/number: <i>Parkhill</i>	Name: <i>AR</i>	Date: <i>13/6/24</i>	Weather:
Building/tree reference: <i>T</i>	Detector: <i>FMT</i>	Start	End
Surveyor names: <i>AR + JK</i>	Camera: <i>NF2 + NF4</i>	Wind: <i>2</i>	
Check list:	Dawn Dusk ☒	Temperature: <i>14</i>	
All lead surveyor details filled in	Sunset/sunrise time: <i>21:39</i>	Precipitation: <i>1</i>	
North arrow marked on map	Survey start time: <i>21:24</i>	Cloud cover: <i>8</i>	
Drawing/map named & dated	Survey end time: <i>23:09</i>		
Surveyor positions marked on drawing			
Photo taken at darkest point of survey			
Notes/ site information (limitations, access issues, lighting etc.)	Sketch plan view: 		

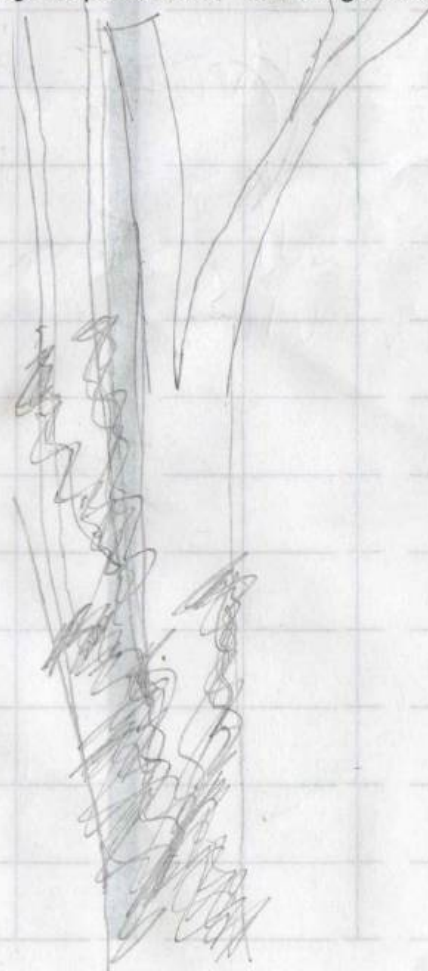
AR

[illegible]

Final Survey Form (No. _____) (Leave blank for Surveyor)



Site name/nurseries: <u>Parkville Av</u>	Surveyor name: <u>SK</u>	Date: <u>13/6/24</u>	Surrounding habitat: <u>Woodland/residential hedge/scrub</u>
		Detector type number: <u>EMT2</u>	
		Camera number: <u>NF6/NF1</u>	

Surveyors checklist: Completed all information at top of form ☒ Drawn view point/marked an emergence point ☒ Added north arrow to comp: ☒ Photo of view point taken at start of survey ☒ Recorded observations and completed summary ☒ Photographed at the darkest point of the survey ☒	Sketch of view (mark on any emergence points and significant flight lines/areas of activity): 	
Summary: Emergence (Circles): Yes No (If yes state number and species) Overall activity level: Very Low Low Medium High Constant Social calling (Circles) Yes No		

Lead Surveyor Bat Survey Form



Site name/number:

Name: *ARL*

Date: *16 May*

Weather: *FB*

Building/tree reference:

Detector: *EMT*

Start

End

Surveyor names: *ARL + SK*

Camera: *NF2 + Sony*

Wind: *1*

Dawn Dusk */*

Temperature: *15*

Check list:

Sunset/sunrise time: *21:05*

Precipitation: *0*

All lead surveyor details filled in */*

North arrow marked on map */*

Drawing/map named & dated */*

Surveyor positions marked on drawing

Photo taken at darkest point of survey

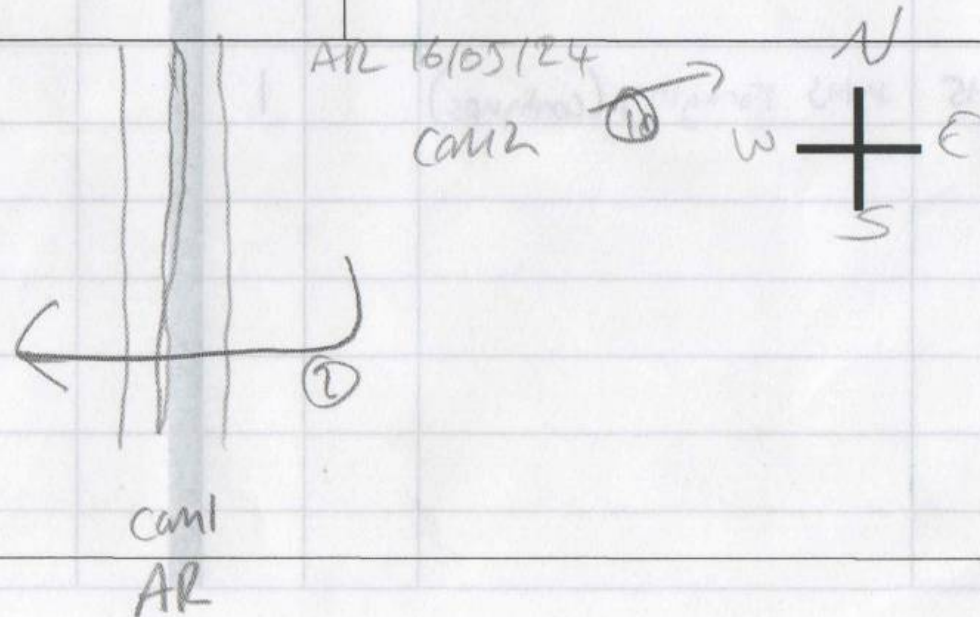
Survey start time: *20:50*

Cloud cover: *100*

Survey end time: *22:35*

Notes/ site information (limitations, access issues, lighting etc.)

Sketch plan view:



[illegible]

Site name/nur: Barkhill Av

 Surveyor name: SK

 Date: 16/09/24

 Surrounding habitat: Scrub/Woodland

 Detector type: EMT

 Camera number: NFB/ABC1
Surveyors checklist:

 Completed all information at top of form ☒

 Draw view point/marked an emergence ☒

 Add north arrow to complete ☒

 Photograph view point taken at start of survey ☒

 Record observations and completed summary ☒

 Photograph taken at the darkest point of the survey ☒
Summary:

 Emergence (Circle): Yes ☒ No (If yes state number and species)

Overall activity level:

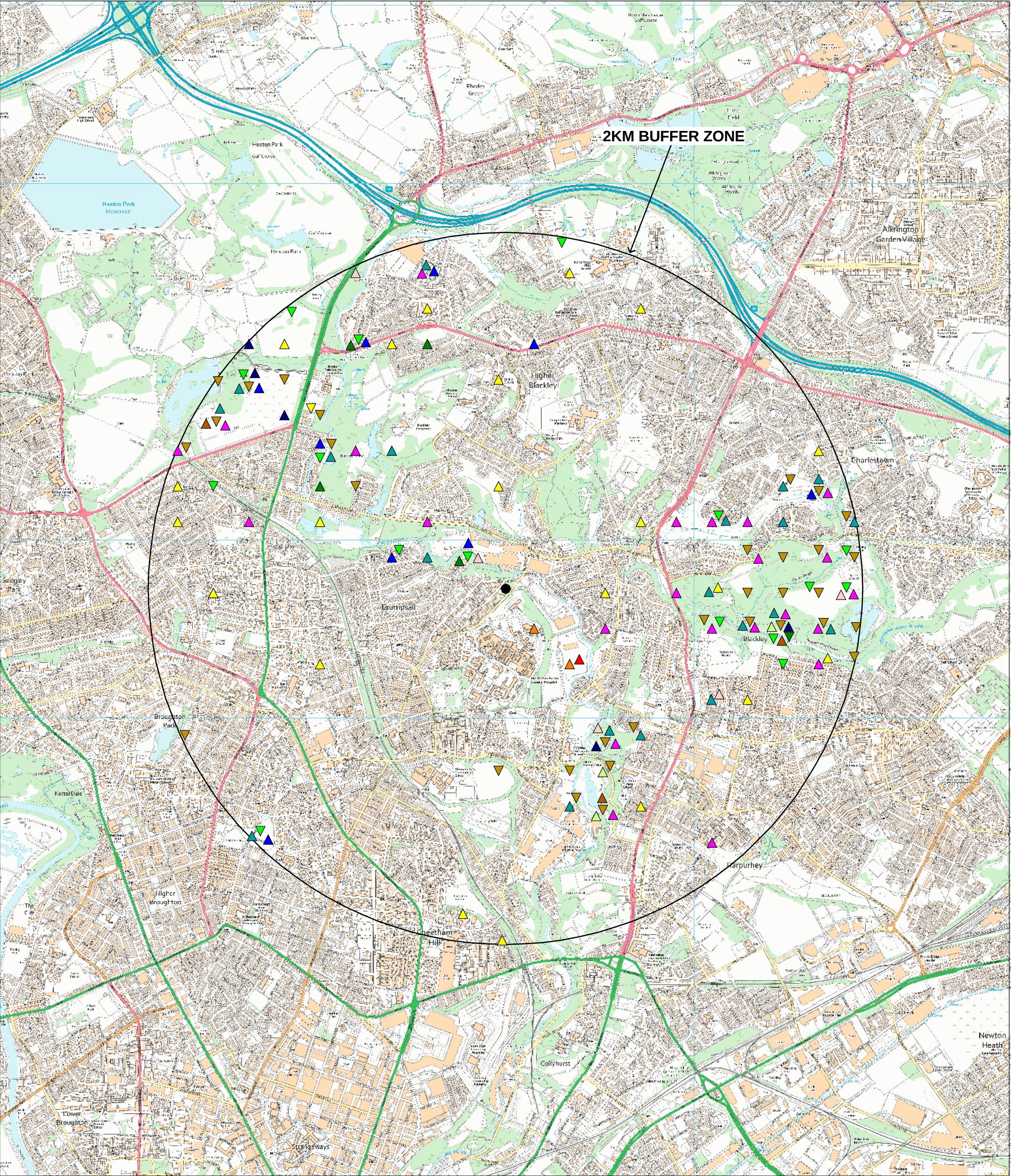
 Very Low
 Low
☒ Medium
 High
 Constant

 Social calling (circle) Yes ☒ No

Sketch view (mark on any emergence points and significant flight lines/arrows of activity):



Appendix 3



KEY
SECTION 41 SPECIES

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| ▲ BULLFINCH | ▲ LINNET |
| ▲ COMMON TOAD | ▲ REED BUNTING |
| ▲ DUNNOCK | ▲ S41 MOTH |
| ▲ HEDGEHOG | ▲ SONG THRUSH |
| ▲ HERRING GULL | ▲ SP. FLYCATCHER |
| ▲ HOUSE SPARROW | ▲ STARLING |
| ▲ LAPWING | ▲ YELLOW WAGTAIL |
| ▲ LESSER REDPOLL | |

GREATER MANCHESTER ECOLOGY UNIT
ECOLOGICAL SEARCH - SD 84940 02726
PARKHILL AVENUE - MAP 5

SCALE 1:20,000

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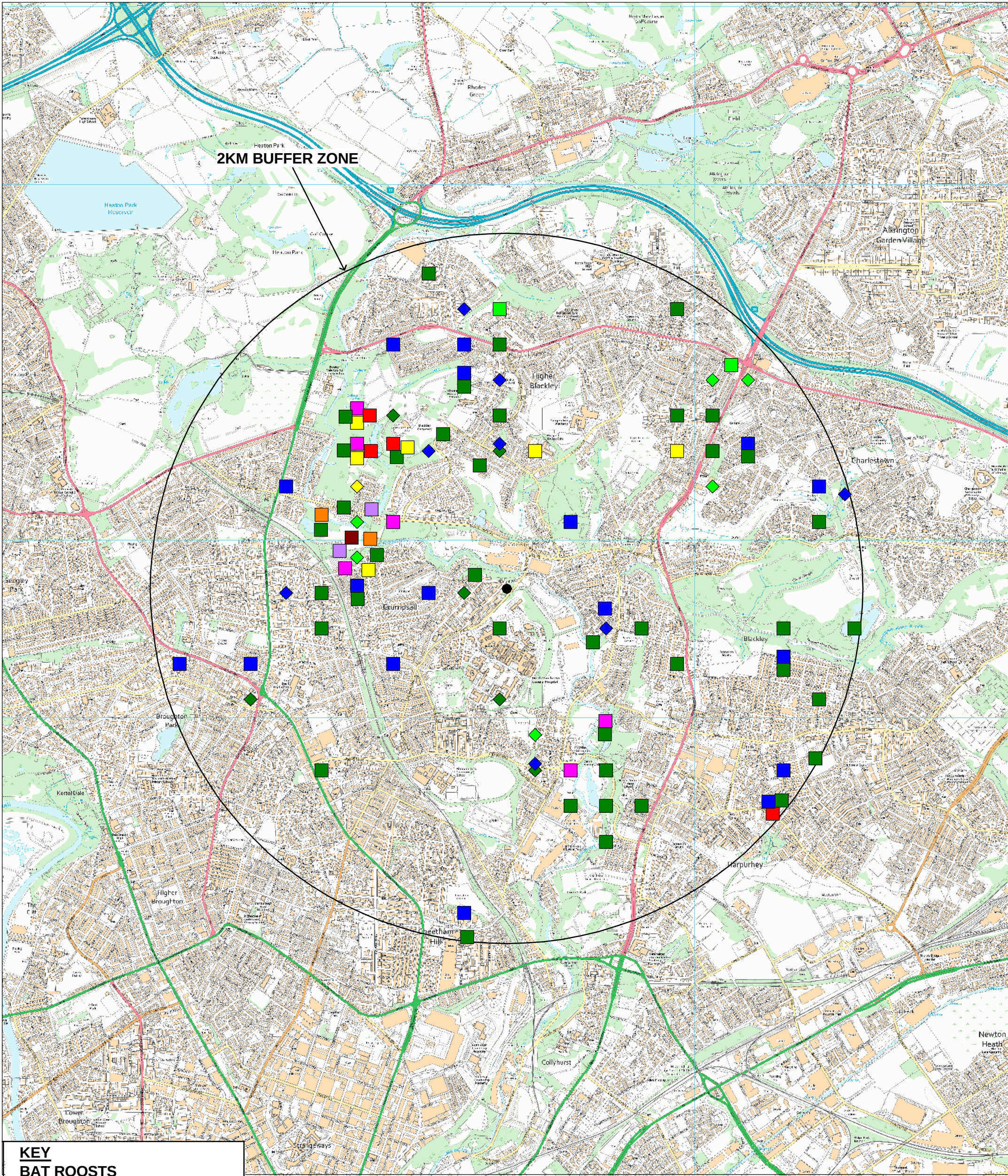
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KEY
BAT ROOSTS

- ◆ BAT SP
- ◆ COMMON PIPISTRELLE
- ◆ PIPISTRELLE SP
- ◆ SOPRANO PIPISTRELLE

BATS OTHER SIGNS

- BAT SP
- BROWN LONG-EARED BAT
- COMMON PIPISTRELLE
- DAUBENTON'S BAT
- MYOTIS SP
- NATTERER'S BAT
- NOCTULE BAT
- PIPISTRELLE SP
- SOPRANO PIPISTRELLE

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PARKHILL AVENUE - MAP 4

SCALE 1:20,000

BAT DATA COURTESY OF SOUTH LANCS BAT GROUP

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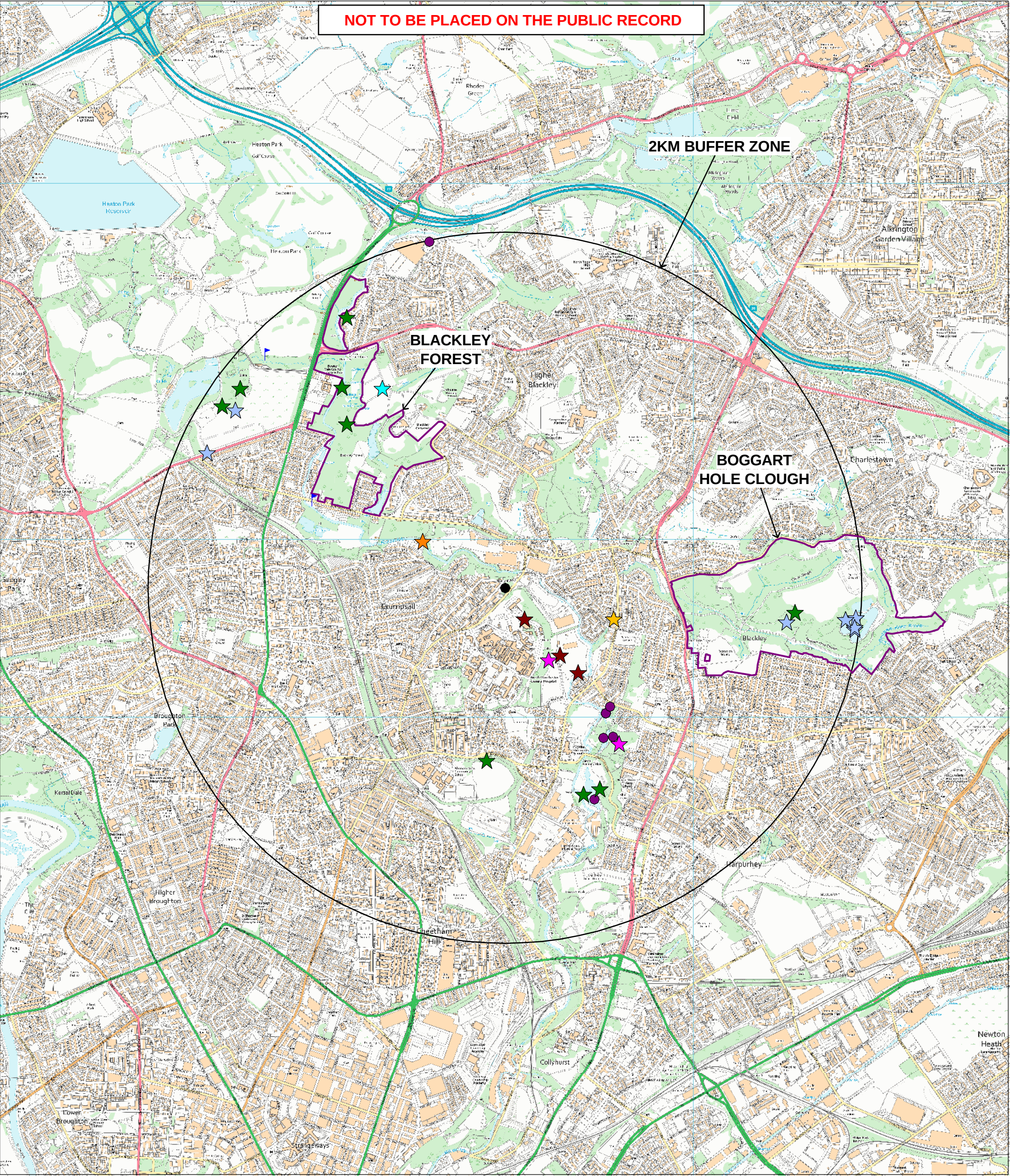
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KEY

PROTECTED SPECIES

- ▶ WATER VOLE
- GREAT CRESTED NEWT ABSENCE
- ★ BARN OWL
- ★ GREY HERON (HERONRY)
- ★ KINGFISHER
- ★ LITTLE RINGED PLOVER
- ★ OTTER
- ★ PEREGRINE
- ★ SLOW-WORM

SITES

- LOCAL NATURE RESERVES

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PARKHILL AVENUE - MAP 2

SCALE 1:20,000

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**GREATER MANCHESTER ECOLOGY UNIT
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PARKHILL AVENUE - MAP 1**

SCALE 1:20,000

KEY
SITE OF BIOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE
 **SBI BOUNDARY**

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Appendix 4

Appendix 4: Relevant Legislation

European Legislation

The following Directives have been adopted by the European Union and provide protection for fauna and flora species of European importance and the habitats which support them:

- Directive 2009/147/EC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (Birds Directive);
- Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (Habitats Directive).

UK Legislation

The Habitats Directive has been transposed into national legislation through the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (The Habitats Regulations). This provides for the designation and protection of 'European Sites' (SPAs, SACs and Ramsar Sites, including proposed or potential European Sites) and the protection of 'European Protected Species'.

The key UK legislation relating to nature conservation is the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (W&C Act). This Act is supplemented, *inter alia*, by provision in the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000, and the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC Act). Additional species and habitat specific UK legislation includes the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 and the Hedgerow Regulations 1997.

The Environment Act sets out how the UK will maintain environmental standards following leaving of the EU. The Bill builds on the vision of the 25 Year Environment Plan, with the ambition from the government to leave the environment in a better state than it was when inherited.

The Defra Biodiversity Metric is being implemented to work alongside the Environment Act. This tool calculates potential biodiversity impacts as a result of development and identifies mitigation and compensation requirements to ensure no net loss of biodiversity. In addition, it identifies measures that can be implemented in order to meet Biodiversity gain as a result of development. Defra released a beta version of the biodiversity metric in July 2019 with the latest update being released in March 2023. This metric is likely to be the default metric used by councils.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2023 has been published to provide further planning guidance. Wildlife, biodiversity and ecological networks are referred to in Section 15 '*Conserving and enhancing the natural environment*'. The NPPF states that the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by: recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services, minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures. Further guidance is provided within Government Circular 06/05: *Biodiversity and Geological Conservation - Statutory Obligations and Their Impact Within the Planning System*.

Species and Habitats of Principal Importance

Species and Habitats of Principal Importance are listed under section 41 of the NERC Act and are a material consideration in planning decisions. Planners require relevant, up to date information from ecological surveys in order to assess the effects of a proposed development on biodiversity as Councils have a statutory obligation under section 40 of the NERC Act to consider biodiversity conservation in the determination of planning applications.

Background information about the lists of priority habitats and species (Species and Habitats of Principal Importance) can be found within the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP). Although this has been succeeded by the 'UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework', many of UK BAP tools are still relevant. BAPs identify habitats and species of nature conservation priority on a UK (UK BAP) and Local (LBAP) scale. Most BAP priority habitats and species have Habitat Action Plans (HAP) and Species Action Plans (SAP) and there are also "grouped action plans" for groups of related species with similar conservation requirements. The LBAP relating to this Site is the Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan.

Bats

In England, all bats and their roosts are protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Several species of bat are also highlighted as Priority Species under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan and within the Local BAP.

Under the current legislation as summarised on pages 8 and 9 of the Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists Good Practice Guidelines – 3rd Edition (2016) it is a criminal offence to:

“To kill, capture, injure or take a wild bat;

- To damage or destroy a place used by a bat for breeding or resting. All offences of this nature are identified within the Habitats Regulations. This offence is unique in that it can be committed accidentally. No element of intentional, reckless or deliberate action needs to be evidenced;*
- To disturb bats anywhere (roosts, flight lines or foraging areas) if levels of disturbance can be shown to impair their ability to survive, to breed or reproduce, to rear or nurture their young, to hibernate or migrate or to affect significantly local distribution or abundance;*
- To intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat, whilst it is occupying a place of shelter or protection;*
- To intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to any place used by a bat for shelter or protection; and*
- To be in possession or control of a bat alive or dead (or any part of a bat or anything derived from a bat, although bat droppings are generally considered to be acceptable), or to transport a bat, to sell or exchange a bat or to offer to sell or exchange a bat taken from the wild.”*

Local Policy

The site lies within Crumpsall and is covered by the Manchester Local Plan 2012-2027 (adopted 11 July 2012) and extant policies within the Unitary Development Plan. The policy of relevance is EN 15 within the Core Strategy document. The site is also covered by the Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan 2022 to 2039 (adopted March 2024). The policy of relevance is JP-G8 regarding Net Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geodiversity.

Appendix 5

16.05.24

ABC1 JK



NF2 AR



NF5 AR



NF6 JK



13.06.24

NF1 JK



NF2 AR



NF4 AR



NF6 JK

