



e3p

Nocturnal Bat Survey Report

Islamic High School for Girls, Chorlton-cum-Hardy

Reference: 80-997-R2-1

Date: June 2023



NOCTURNAL BAT SURVEY REPORT

Islamic High School for Girls
Chorlton-cum-Hardy

Prepared for:
Cube Homes Ltd

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Site Address	Islamic High School for Girls, 55 High Ln, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester M21 9FA
Coordinates	E 381511, N 393739
Site Area	Approximately 0.4 ha
Current Site Use	The site comprised an active high school including three buildings and a hardstanding playground.
Proposed Development	Detailed development proposals were unavailable at the time of writing.
Results	During the emergence surveys of the school buildings (B1 & B2), low levels of bat activity were recorded. Common pipistrelle (<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>) was the only species identified during the survey. No bats were recorded as emerging from either building.
Conclusions and Recommendations	No roosts were identified within B1 or B2. As such no further surveys or mitigation is required for works to proceed. In the unlikely instance that any bats are located within the building or wall during demolition, works should cease, and a suitably qualified ecologist should be contacted. It is recommended that any planting within the site be of native fruiting/flowering species to enhance the site for foraging bats post-completion and the possible instillation of bat boxes.



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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. BACKGROUND

E3P has been instructed by Cube Homes Ltd to undertake Nocturnal Bat Surveys at the Islamic High School for Girls, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, hereafter referred to as “the site”.

This report has been prepared by Zach Squire-Watt BSc (Hons), QCIEEM, Graduate Consultant Ecologist at E3P who has experience in completing PRAs and nocturnal bat surveys at many sites across the UK.

1.2. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Detailed development proposals were unavailable at the time of writing.

1.3. SITE DESCRIPTION

The site is located in Chorlton-cum-Hardy, south-west of Manchester city centre. The site is located along High Lane which forms the northern site boundary, whilst residential housing surrounds the site on all aspects. Beech Road Park is located approximately 130 m south-east of the site and Chorlton Ees Nature Reserve is located approximately 370 m south-west of the site boundary. Please refer to Figure 1.1 for the approximate site location.

FIGURE 1.1 APPROXIMATE SITE LOCATION



1.4. PREVIOUS SURVEYS

In September 2022, E3P conducted a Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA) (report reference: 80-997-R1).

During the PRA, Building 1 was assessed as having Low bat roosting potential due to a number of features associated with the roof and ridge tiles. Building 2 was assessed as having Moderate bat roosting potential due to a large split in the corner of the roof and a number of features associated with roof and ridge tiles and around the chimneys. Building 3 was assessed as having Negligible bat roosting potential.

Nocturnal Bat Surveys was recommended following the PRA to confirm the presence/absence of roosting bats and to inform relevant mitigation.

Please see Figure 1.2 for the location of the on-site buildings and their references.

FIGURE 1.2 BUILDING LOCATIONS AND REFERENCES



1.5. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Nocturnal Bat Surveys were to identify:

-  Any existing roosts within the site.
-  Potential impacts of the proposed development on bats.
-  The need for mitigation.

The survey findings are detailed in this report, along with any recommendations.



2. METHODOLOGY

2.1. DESK STUDY

The following sources of information and ecological records were consulted:

- ✳ MAGIC – A web-based interactive mapping system, on which geographic information regarding key environmental schemes and designations are collated, including details of statutory conservation sites as well as data pertaining to protected species licenses, accessed May 2023.
- ✳ Local information and species records from South Lancashire Bat Group.

2.2. NOCTURNAL SURVEYS

Bat emergence and re-entry surveys were undertaken following the guidance set out by Collins (2016). All surveys were conducted using appropriate handheld bat detectors suitable for commercial use and were undertaken by competent and suitably trained bat surveyors.

TABLE 2.1 EMERGENCE SURVEY DETAILS

SURVEY	DATE	BUILDING(S) SURVEYED	SUNSET/ SUNRISE	SURVEY TIMINGS	WEATHER CONDITIONS
DUSK SURVEY 1	11/05/2023	B1, B2	20:56	20:41- 22:26	Dry, 15°C, 70% cloud cover, light breeze
DAWN SURVEY 1	25/05/2023	B2	04:55	03:25- 05:10	Dry, 13°C, 95% cloud cover, still

Six suitably qualified bat surveyors were positioned around the building to observe the areas of highest bat-roosting potential during the nocturnal surveys. Zach Squire-Watt acted as the lead surveyor on the nocturnal surveys. Surveyor Carlin Jones holds a Class 1 Natural England Bat Licence (2023-11074-CL17-BAT).

Please refer to Figure 2.1 for the approximate location of the surveyors.



FIGURE 2.1 APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF SURVEYORS



2.3. DATA ANALYSIS

An Echo Meter Touch 2 was used to record bat calls during the survey. The Echo Meter Touch 2 data was converted from WAV to ZCA using Wildlife Acoustics Kaleidoscope Software and analysed using AnalookW.

2.4. SURVEY LIMITATIONS

Nocturnal Bat Surveys are completed following the guidance set out in Collins (2016) and are carried out by competent and trained surveyors. However, due to the surveys being conducted by observation during low light conditions, this may cause constraints of visual assessments. No surveyors were visually constrained during the survey, other than that of low light conditions, and all potential roosting features were observed throughout the survey time period. All surveys were conducted in optimum weather conditions, following the guidance set out by Collins (2016).



3. SURVEY RESULTS

3.1. DESK STUDY

Based on information from South Lancashire Bat Group, species present within the local area include whiskered/Brandt's (*Myotis mystacinus/brandtii*) brown long-eared (*Plecotus auritus*), common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*), Daubenton's bat (*Myotis daubentonii*), natterer's bat (*Myotis nattereri*), noctule (*Nyctalus noctule*) and soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*).

Consultation with MAGIC identified a European Protected Species Licences within 1 km of the site boundary, located approximately 70 m east of the site. The licence was active between 2015 and 2020 for the destruction of a brown long-eared non-breeding roost.

3.2. EMERGENCE/RE-ENTRY SURVEYS

3.2.1. B1 & B2 DUSK EMERGENCE SURVEY 11TH MAY 2023

During the dusk emergence survey, there were low levels of foraging and commuting activity noted, Common pipistrelle was the only species recorded. The first pass was sighted flying north-east to west across the car park by V6 at 21:31, 35 minutes after sunset. There was sporadic activity throughout the survey. The final bat was heard but not seen by V2 at 22:19.

No bats were recorded emerging from B1.

3.2.2. B2 DAWN RE-ENTRY SURVEY 25TH MAY 2023

During the dusk emergence survey, only two sightings were recorded with common pipistrelle being the only species recorded. The first pass was recorded by V6 at 03:39, 76 minutes before sunrise. The final bat was recorded by V4 at 04:08.

No bats were recorded emerging from B2.

3.3. SUMMARY AND INTERPRETATION

During the dusk emergence and dawn re-entry surveys on B1 and B2, low bat activity levels were recorded, with common pipistrelle being the only species recorded. Bats were recorded commuting and foraging through and around the site, however, no bats were recorded emerging from either building during the survey. The earliest recorded bat was at 21:31. Taking into consideration the time bats were recorded and the time taken for bats to commute to the site, it is unlikely bats are roosting locally.



4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Due to the relatively low levels of activity present and as no bats were seen to emerge from the buildings during the surveys, it can be said with reasonable certainty that no bats are roosting within B1 and B2. Therefore, no further assessment or licensing is required for the works to proceed on B1 or B2. In the unlikely event that a bat is found inside the building or within the wall during the works, all works are to cease immediately. Following this, a suitably qualified ecologist should be contacted, and further advice sought from Natural England.



5. REFERENCES

- 📖 Collins, J. (2016). Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists, 3rd Edition. Bat Conservation Trust.
- 📖 E3P (2022). Preliminary Roost Assessment (report reference: 80-997-R1).

END OF REPORT



APPENDIX I

SURVEY FORMS

DUSK EMERGENCE SURVEY

11TH MAY 2023

Date: 11/05/2023
Sunset: 20:56
Start time: 20:41
End time: 22:26

Weather conditions: Dry, 15°C, 70% cloud cover, light breeze

Surveyor: Matthew Sandham (V1)

TIME	SPECIES	ACTIVITY
22:05	Common pipistrelle	Heard not seen (HNS)
22:19	Common pipistrelle	HNS

Surveyor: Sian Dixon (V2)

TIME	SPECIES	ACTIVITY
21:53	Common pipistrelle	Commuting heading north
22:07	Common pipistrelle	HNS

Surveyor: Rowan Whittaker (V3)

TIME	SPECIES	ACTIVITY
21:45	Common pipistrelle	HNS

Surveyor: Matthias Ambrose (V4)

TIME	SPECIES	ACTIVITY
21:48	Common pipistrelle	Foraging/commuting

Surveyor: Zach Squire-Watt (V5)

Time	SPECIES	ACTIVITY
No records		



Surveyor: Carlin Jones (V6)

TIME	SPECIES	ACTIVITY
21:28	Common pipistrelle	HNS
21:30	Common pipistrelle	HNS
21:31	Common pipistrelle	Foraging along the road by streetlight and hedgerows
21:40	Common pipistrelle	Commuting around the building north-east to west
21:43	Common pipistrelle	HNS
21:44	Common pipistrelle	HNS- overhead
21:49	Common pipistrelle	HNS
21:53	Common pipistrelle	HNS
21:56	Common pipistrelle	HNS

DAWN RE-ENTRY SURVEY

25TH MAY 2023

Date: 25/05/2023
Sunrise: 04:55
Start time: 03:25
End time: 05:10

Weather conditions: Dry, 13°C, 95% cloud cover, still.

Surveyor: Matthias Ambrose (V4)

TIME	SPECIES	ACTIVITY
04:08	Common pipistrelle	Commuting

Surveyor: Zach Squire-Watt (V6)

TIME	SPECIES	ACTIVITY
03:39	Common pipistrelle	Commuting

