

Appendix D

Photographs



Photograph 1. The Site, looking east from the field gate at the centre of H3, with LT1 on the left.



Photograph 2. The Site, looking north from the field gate, with LT2 on the left and LT1 on the right.



Photograph 3. The Site, looking west from the field gate, with LT2 on the right.



Photograph 4. LT1



Photograph 5. LT2



Photograph 6. Mixed scrub offshoot of LT1, with trees T26 (left) and T27 (right)



Photograph 7. Veteran English oak tree T27



Photograph 8. Large, notable English oak T2



Photograph 9. Offsite section of Lancing Brook, north of the Site



Photograph 10. Pond 1 located east of the Site.



Photograph 11. Pond 2 located further east of the Site



Photograph 12. Species-rich native hedgerow H6 on the south of the Site

Appendix E

Habitats and Flora Species List

Table 1. Habitat Polygons

Site Name	Land at Rectory Lane, Ashington, West Sussex		
Survey Date and Surveyor(s)	31/01/2024 Jeff Turton ACIEEM FISC level 3 and Lydia Galbraith ACIEEM FISC level 3		
Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat Parcel	
		F1 Arable crop (c1c)	Dense Strub (h3)
Herb Species			
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow parsley	X	
<i>Cirsium</i> sp.	Thistle sp.	X	
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	X	
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed	X	
<i>Lamium album</i>	White dead-nettle	X	
<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	Greater stitchwort	X	
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Common nettle	X	
Grasses			
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False oat-grass	O	
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot	F	
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial rye-grass	A	
Crops			
<i>Triticum</i> sp.	Wheat sp.	D	
Woody Species			
Broadleaved			
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn		X
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn		X
<i>Quercus</i> sp.	Oak	X	X
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Bramble	X	X
<i>Salix</i> sp.	Willow	X	X

Table 2. Linear Habitats

Site Name	Land at Rectory Lane, Ashington, West Sussex						
Survey Date and Surveyor(s)	31/01/2024 Jeff Turton ACIEEM FISC level 3 and Lydia Galbraith ACIEEM FISC level 3						
Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat Parcel Number/Habitat Type					
		H1 Hedgerow (priority)	H2 Hedgerow (priority)	H3 Hedgerow (priority)	H4 Hedgerow (priority)	H5 Hedgerow (priority)	LT1 & LT2 Line of Trees
Broadleaved							
Acer campestre	Field maple			X	X	X	
Cornus sp.	Dogwood			X			
Corylus avellana	Hazel	X		X	X	X	
Crataegus laevigata	Midland hawthorn						
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	X	X	X		X	
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	X		X	X		
Ilex aquifolium	Holly			X	X		
Malus sylvestris	Crab Apple				X		
Populus tremula	Aspen			X	X	X	
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	X	X	X	X	X	
Quercus robur	Pedunculate oak				X	X	
Quercus sp.	Oak	X					X
Rosa canina sp.	Dog-rose	X		X			
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble	X					X
Ruscus aculeatus	Butcher's-broom						
Salix caprea	Goat willow				X		
Salix sp.	Willow						
Salix viminalis	Osier						
Sambucus nigra	Elder	X					
Sorbus aria	Whitebeam						
Sorbus aucuparia	Rowan						
Sorbus intermedia	Swedish whitebeam						
Sorbus torminalis	Wild service						
Symphoricarpos albus	Snowberry						
Tilia cordata	Small-leaved lime						
Tilia platyphyllos	Large-leaved lime						
Tilia x europaea	Common lime						
Ulex europaeus	Gorse						
Ulmus glabra	Wych elm						
Ulmus procera	English elm	X	X	X	X		
Ulmus sp.	Elm						
Viburnum lantana	Wayfaring-tree						
Viburnum opulus	Gelder-rose						

Appendix F

Evaluation & Assessment Methods

- 1.1. Ecological features are evaluated and assessed in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM, 2024) Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA). For clarity, the evaluation and assessment process adopted within this EclA is set out below.

Establishing Potentially Important Ecological Features

- 1.2. Ecological features are assessed where they are considered to be important, and where they may be impacted by a proposed development. A feature may be considered important for a variety of reasons, such as quality, extent, rarity and/or statutory protection. Table 1 below sets out a non-exhaustive list of ecological features that are typically considered, along with key examples:

Table 1. Potentially important ecological features (adapted from CIEEM 2024)

Potentially Important Ecological Features	Typical examples
Statutory designated sites under international conventions or European Legislation	Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar sites), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPA)
Statutory designated sites under national legislation	Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), National Nature Reserves (NNR), Local Nature Reserves (LNR)
Non-statutory, locally designated wildlife sites	Local Wildlife Sites (LWS), County Wildlife Sites (CWSs), Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)
National biodiversity lists	Habitats or Species of Principal Importance for the Conservation of Biodiversity (Section 41, NERC Act 2006), Ancient Woodland Inventory
Local biodiversity lists	Local Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) priority species or habitats
Red Listed / Rare Species	Species of conservation concern, Red Data Book (RDB) species, Birds of Conservation Concern, nationally rare and nationally scarce species
Legally Protected Species	E.g. species listed under Sch.5 of the W&C Act 1981, or Sch.2 of the Hag. Regs. 2017
Legally Controlled Species	E.g. species listed under Sch.9 of the W&C Act 1981

- 1.3. It should also be noted that the social, community, economic or multi-functional importance attributed to ecological features are not assessed as they fall outwith the scope of this assessment.

Establishing Likely Zone of Influence

- 1.4. The 'zone of influence' for a project is the area over which ecological features may be subject to significant effects as a result of the project and associated activities. The project's zone of influence varies across different ecological features, which have different vulnerabilities and

sensitivities. For the purposes of this assessment, the following zones were considered:

- International statutory nature conservation designations up to 10km from the Site
 - National and local statutory nature conservation designations up to 3km from the Site
 - Non-statutory locally designated wildlife sites up to 1km from the Site
- 1.5. These arbitrary distances are considered sufficient for identifying the nature conservation designations which could be subject to significant effects. However, it is acknowledged that in certain circumstances effects beyond these distances are possible and should be considered as far as is reasonably practicable to do so.
- 1.6. For other ecological features, such as habitats and species, the appropriate zone of influence is described and justified as appropriate within the report, depending on their respective sensitivity to an environmental change.
- 1.7. The results of professionally accredited or published scientific studies have been used and referenced, where available, to establish the spatial and temporal limits of the biophysical changes likely to be caused by specific activities, and to justify decisions about the zone of influence.

Geographic Context and Significance Criteria

- 1.8. The importance of ecological features, as well as the significance of any likely impacts and their effects, are considered here within a defined geographic context:
- International
 - National
 - Regional
 - County
 - Local
- 1.9. While higher geographic tiers correspond to clearly defined areas, local context is subjective and will vary on a case-by-case basis. It will range from the Site and its surroundings, to ecologically connected environs, to the scale of the District/Borough, according to the professional judgement of the author.
- 1.10. The size, conservation status and the quality of features are all relevant in determining their importance and assigning this to the geographic scale. Where the importance of a feature is considered to fall below the Local scale, they are scoped out of detailed assessment.

- 1.11. Impacts and their effects are taken to be significant where they support or undermine biodiversity conservation objectives, with the scale of significance defined according to the above geographic context. Where an impact or effect is unlikely to be perceptible at a Local scale, this is taken to be not significant.

Characterising Ecological Impacts and their Effects

- 1.12. Where likely significant ecological impacts and effects are identified in connection with the proposed project, these are considered and described with reference to the following characteristics (where this is helpful in accurately portraying the ecological effect and determining the scale of significance):
- Positive or negative (i.e. does the anticipated change accord with nature conservation policies and objectives?)
 - Extent (i.e. the spatial area over which the impact or effect may occur)
 - Magnitude (i.e. the quantified size, amount, intensity or volume)
 - Duration (i.e. the timeframe over which the impact or effect may occur, in both human and ecological terms)
 - Frequency and timing (i.e. the number of times an activity occurs, where this is likely to influence the effect)
 - Reversibility (i.e. is spontaneous recovery possible or may the effect be counteracted by mitigation?)

Appendix G

Bat Survey Report

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report has been prepared on behalf of Taylor Wimpey Strategic Land to provide information relating to bat survey work undertaken at Land North of Rectory Lane, Ashington, West Sussex (hereafter 'the Site'). It is intended to inform an evidence-based Ecological Impact Assessment of residential development at the Site.

2.0 Legislation

- 2.1 All British bat species are legally protected under Regulation 43 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). These Regulations make it an offence to:
- Deliberately capture, injure, or kill a bat
 - Deliberately disturb bats, impairing their ability to survive, breed, reproduce or rear/nurture their young, or which significantly affects the local distribution or abundance of the species
 - Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place used by bats
- 2.2 All bats and their roosts in the UK were previously fully protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Amendments to the Act have removed most provisions as they relate to bats, however it remains an offence to:
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat while it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for shelter or protection
 - Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to any structure or place used for shelter or protection
- 2.3 It is important to note that bat roosts are protected throughout the year, regardless of whether or not bats are present at the time. Under the Regulations, the offence of damaging or destroying a breeding site or resting place is subject to 'strict liability', i.e. an offence is committed irrespective of whether the causal act was deliberate or otherwise.
- 2.4 Where development is proposed that would result in an offence under the Regulations, a European Protected Species (EPS) statutory derogation licence (often termed 'EPS Mitigation Licence') will need to be secured from Natural England to permit an act that would otherwise be unlawful. Such a licence can only be granted following receipt of planning permission with all relevant conditions discharged, and where it has been demonstrated that specific statutory derogation tests have been met.

3.0 Methods

- 3.1 The following survey methods, design, data analysis, and interpretation have been undertaken with due consideration of the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) guidelines 4th edition (Collins, 2023).

Ground Level Tree Assessment (GLTA)

- 3.2 A GLTA is a detailed inspection of the exterior of a tree from the ground to look for features that bats could use for roosting, or Potential Roost Features (PRFs).
- 3.3 All trees anticipated to be affected by development were inspected from ground level, using binoculars, high-powered torches, a ladder and an endoscope as appropriate. The survey was undertaken across the 27 February, 12 April, and 18 April 2024 by Jeff Turton MCIEEM, assisted by Lydia Galbraith ACIEEM, Will Campbell, and Corie Lee.
- 3.4 The survey recorded descriptions of each tree, including the species, height, and condition. Diameter at breast height was informed by data collected during an Arboricultural Survey undertaken by Barton-Hyett Associates (November 2024). This dataset has subsequently been updated in line with arboricultural report/drawing revisions and changes to tree numbering as of 2026.
- 3.5 The aim of this inspection was to look for PRFs from ground level and give a preliminary description of each (such as type of PRF, height, size and location on tree). Surveyors also recorded direct (i.e. actual roosting bats) or indirect evidence of roosting bats (e.g. droppings), as well as the nature and number of features with 'potential' to support roosting bats. This includes consideration of trees to support bats whilst in hibernation.
- 3.6 Following the GLTA, each tree was assigned one of the following categories:
- **PRF** – A tree with at least one PRF.
 - **FAR** – Further assessment required to establish if PRFs are present in the tree.
 - **None** – Either no PRFs in the tree or highly unlikely to be any.

Assessing 'Potential' of Trees to Support Roosting Bats

- 3.7 Each PRF was assigned to one of the following categories:
- **PRF-I** – Tree with a PRF that is only suitable for individual bats or very small numbers of bats either due to size or lack of suitable surroundings.
 - **PRF-M** – PRF is suitable for multiple bats and may therefore be used by a maternity colony.

- 3.8 The categories above are intended to provide initial guidance on whether further inspections are necessary to prove presence or likely absence of roosting bats, rather than to assign importance to such features.
- 3.9 The potential of a tree to support roosting bats is often influenced by its age, thermal stability, lighting, and levels of human activity. Furthermore, the proximity to foraging habitat - particularly woodland, parkland and wetland - as well as the presence of navigational routes (e.g. hedgerows, treelines and watercourses) influence both the potential for bats to roost, as well as the species which may roost. Professional judgement is therefore applied, based upon known factors which effect the potential of features to support roosting bats, insofar as determining the need or scope of further surveys or inspections.

Activity Surveys

Night-time Bat Walkover/Vantage Point Surveys

Night-time Bat Walkover (NBW) surveys were undertaken in May, July, and September 2024. On each occasion, surveyors were stationed at specific points within the Site prior to sunset; stationed on possible flight lines close to potential roost sources such as groups of buildings or woodland (see Figure 1).



Figure 1. Stationed surveyor locations (SSL) during the Night-time Bat Walkover Surveys undertaken in May, July and September 2024.

3.10 The surveys were led by Jeff Turton MCIEEM in suitable weather conditions (see Table 1).

Table 1. Night-time Bat Walkover survey timings and weather conditions.

Survey Date	Sunset Time	Start Time	End Time	Temp. (°C)		Cloud Cover (oktas)		Wind (Beaufort Scale)		Precipitation
				Start	End	Start	End	Start	End	
23/05/24	20:56	20:56	22:56	13	11	1	1	0	0	None
18/07/24	21:06	21:06	22:52	19	17	1	6	0	0	None
17/09/24	19:10	19:40	21:10	15	17	2	0	4	3	None

3.11 Surveyors remained in position to count, observe behaviour and make acoustic recordings of commuting (or foraging) bats for up to an hour after sunset. Any observations of bat activity such as feeding or commuting behaviour was noted, or identification of key flightlines (such as height, direction of travel, numbers of bats and response to weather or other features on-site). Alternatively, if streams of commuting bats were noted elsewhere on-site, surveyors used back-tracking methods to move towards a roost, responding to live observations. Surveyors were

equipped with BatLogger M2 bat detectors to allow any bat contacts to be recorded.

- 3.12 As part of the stationed observation, whilst surveyors are positioned across the Site at the start of the survey, vantage point observations were undertaken, including notes on early emerging/high-flying bats such as noctule. Notes made on behaviour include flight height, numbers of bats and direction of travel.
- 3.13 Following a minimum of 30 minutes of stationed observations, surveyors walked a single transect route, which aimed to cover all accessible areas, features and habitats at the Site. This route was repeated at least once during each survey to minimise temporal bias and walked at a moderate and consistent speed with qualitative observations of bat behaviour made by the surveyor.
- 3.14 Transect surveys are intended to gather data on the spatial distribution of bat activity across the Site, identifying areas of relative importance for bats, including key flight lines. In addition, direct observation of bats allows for qualitative assessments of how bats use the Site to be made complementing quantitative data collected through remote monitoring.

Automated/Static Surveys

- 3.15 Two Wildlife Acoustics Songmeter (SM4) detectors were deployed monthly for a minimum five consecutive nights from April to October 2024 to provide seven datasets. The position of these Monitoring Locations (MLs) is shown on Figure 2 below.



Monitoring Locations ● ML1 ● ML2

Figure 2. The position of each Monitoring Location (ML) surveyed during monthly remote monitoring surveys between April and October 2024.

- 3.16 The detectors were setup to automatically record ultrasonic signals for the period from half an hour before sunset to half an hour after sunrise each night, with each monitoring period spanning at least five consecutive nights.
- 3.17 Static detectors were deployed across the Site to provide a representative sample of habitat types within the Site that could be impacted by the proposals, including boundary vegetation and scrub habitats.
- 3.18 Weather conditions were obtained for each night surveyed using historic weather data from the World Weather Online website, with weather observations taken from the nearest weather station in Ashington. The five nights showing the most optimal weather conditions (in terms of temperature, precipitation and wind speed, see Table 4) were taken forward for analysis.
- 3.19 Recordings are triggered when a bat echolocation call is detected and will contain a variable number of call 'pulses'. Each file containing call pulses by a bat is designated as a 'bat contact' for each species

present. The maximum recording duration is 15 seconds after which time a new recording file, and thus a new bat contact, is generated if echolocation calls are still being detected. This means that periods of prolonged bat activity near a detector is represented as multiple bat contacts, rather than an individual one.

Analysis of Data

Call Analysis

- 3.20 Bat calls were recorded using Elekon Batlogger M detectors. This detector automatically records ultrasonic signals with a one second delay between recordings. Recordings of bat contacts were subsequently analysed using BatExplorerPro software, with sonograms reviewed to confirm bat identification to genera, or where possible, species level.
- 3.21 Each of the recorded files, which contain a variable number of call 'pulses', was designated a 'bat contact'. At the point of contact, each sound file is assigned a GPS location.
- 3.22 For analysis of data recorded during static monitoring, quantitative analysis of bat activity was then undertaken by calculating the average bat contacts per hour on each night monitored, for each species.
- 3.23 Bat activity can show considerable variability and is dependent on a number of variables, including temperature, wind, and seasonality amongst others. To account for this variability, the median values for the average hourly bat contacts per night are reported, rather than a mean value which would misrepresent the average activity.

Limitations

- 3.24 It should be noted that the findings described herein for remote monitoring surveys are based on the bat activity recorded at the location immediate to each detector, and therefore only describe localised activity at the Site.
- 3.25 In addition, comparisons drawn on the number of detector activations by different species/genera can only give an indication of relative species abundance at the Site, as detectability varies between species.
- 3.26 It is acknowledged that the quantum of bat contacts recorded during a survey may not give a true reflection of the abundance of bats using the Site. For example, a single bat foraging close to a detector may trigger several hundred activations in the course of one night. However, this activity level does provide a proxy for the level of use by bats, and therefore its relative importance.
- 3.27 During the static monitoring surveys, very light/light rain was experienced on 19 of the total 35 recording nights, for the majority of which, rain was

only experienced for a short duration within the night. This is not anticipated to have significantly impacted bat activity, nor the overall conclusions of this report.

4.0 Results

Ground Level Tree Assessment (GLTA)

- 4.1 All on-site trees were assessed for their potential to support roosting bats, 18 of which were identified as 'PRF' or 'FAR'. These are trees T2, T6, T17, T19, T21, T22, T25, T27, T28, T29, T30 and individual trees found within groups G5, G6, G7, G8, G13, G14 and G15. Full survey results are provided at the end of this report.

Activity Surveys

Vantage Point

- 4.2 As shown in Figure 1 (above), the 'stationed surveyor locations' (SSLs) were chosen from the start of the first NBW survey (Survey #1; 23/05/2024) to cover all available habitats located within the Site.
- 4.3 During the May vantage point survey, a total of three contacts were recorded at SSL 1. The first bat observation at SSL 1 was a common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus Pipistrellus* at 21:23hrs (27 minutes after sunset) seen foraging at the southern end of LT2. The transect/walking element of the NBW then commenced 30 minutes after sunset (at 21:30hrs).
- 4.4 During the July vantage point survey, the first bat spotted flying in the Site from SSL 2 was a common pipistrelle at 21:21hrs (15 minutes after sunset), was followed by a *Nyctalus/Eptesicus* sp. seen commuting over the Site.
- 4.5 During the September vantage point survey, the first bat spotted from surveyors at SSL 3 was a soprano pipistrelle at 19:29hrs (19 minutes after sunset). This location was seen to be used for foraging with the two calls heard from large bats seen commuting across the field. Similar foraging behaviour was noted in the summer vantage point survey and is repeated for the autumn survey with foraging restricted to the boundaries present.
- 4.6 Linear features such as treelines, hedgerows, and the stream were used for commuting and foraging. The abundance of large mature treelines and individual trees in the local area was seen to be a key foraging feature.

Night-time Bat Walkover

- 4.7 At least seven species of bat were recorded at the Site during the transect element of the surveys, comprising common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, noctule, serotine, barbastelle *Barbastella barbastellus* and unidentified *Myotis* sp. and *Plecotus* sp. Activity was dominated by

common pipistrelle, accounting for c. 82% of total contacts, followed by soprano pipistrelle, accounting for c. 13%.

- 4.8 The numbers of bat contacts recorded for each species are summarised in Table 1 below. The numbers of each bat contact and the overall distribution of activity across the Site are illustrated in Figures 3 and 4.

Table 1. Summary of bat contacts recorded during transect surveys.

Month	Ppip	Ppyg	Myot sp.	Eser	Plec sp.	Pip sp.	Nnoc	Ny/Ep	Bbar
May	137	18	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
July	75	12	6	0	0	1	0	0	0
Sept	102	19	2	1		0	2	1	1
Total	314	49	9	1	1	2	2	1	2
% of Total	82	13	2	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1

*Bbar Barbastelle, Ppip Common pipistrelle, Plec sp. Plecotus species, Myot sp. Myotis species, Nnoc Noctule, Nyct sp. Nyctalus species, Ny/Ep Nyctalus/Eptesicus species, Pip sp. Pipistrellus species, Eser Serotine, Ppyg Soprano pipistrelle



Figure 3. Locations of bat contacts recorded across all transect surveys.

- 4.9 Activity was largely widespread across the Site, with the highest levels of activity associated with the boundary vegetation. Pipistrelle contacts

were most concentrated within the north-eastern corner of the Site, with the remaining species relatively widespread across the Site.

- 4.10 A single barbastelle pass was recorded during each of the May and September transect surveys, at 22:12hrs and 20:08hrs respectively, both of which detected along the southern boundary in proximity to the central tree lines extending north. This is perhaps not to be anticipated, with greater levels of anthropogenic disturbance resulting from the residential area of Ashington present to the immediate south of this boundary.
- 4.11 Figure 4 below provides an indicative illustration of 'hotspots' in bat activity recorded across all transect surveys undertaken at the Site as described above.



Figure 4. Indicative 'Utilisation Distribution' (UD) of all bat species/genera at the Site estimated from all transect data combined. The UD illustrates the relative probability of a bat in flight being present at a given point at the Site, with higher/central contours having a greater probability, and lower/peripheral contours having less probability.

Static/Automated Monitoring

- 4.12 The weather conditions experienced during the five nights where data was analysed are provided in Table 3 below.

Table 3. Overnight weather conditions during remote monitoring.

Survey Month	Dates Sampled	Temp. (°C)		Cloud Cover (%)		Wind (km/h)		Precipitation
		Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
April	25/04	4	6	53	100	10	18	Light rain from 00:00 to 03:00
April	26/04	3	7	91	100	19	32	Light rain throughout
April	27/04	5	9	100	100	9	34	Light rain throughout
April	28/04	6	6	4	86	20	22	Light rain throughout
April	29/04	7	8	0	30	17	20	None
May	23/05	7	10	4	60	5	13	Light rain from 21:00 to 00:00
May	24/05	9	11	1	29	4	9	None
May	25/05	10	12	50	100	10	18	Light rain from 21:00 to 03:00
May	26/05	8	10	14	76	17	25	Light rain from 03:00
May	27/05	9	10	20	100	18	29	Light rain from 00:00
June	14/06	8	11	76	97	23	42	Light rain throughout
June	15/06	10	11	63	86	27	33	Light rain throughout
June	16/06	10	13	50	88	16	29	Light rain from 00:00
June	17/06	12	13	14	48	5	14	None
June	18/06	9	15	25	73	6	26	None
July	18/07	17	18	27	65	6	9	None
July	19/07	16	18	10	96	11	15	None
July	20/07	17	17	54	74	6	14	Light rain from 00:00 to 03:00
July	21/07	14	17	3	99	10	22	None
July	22/07	17	18	54	92	18	24	Light rain throughout
Aug	06/08	14	16	0	12	14	23	None
Aug	07/08	13	17	30	86	14	20	Light rain from 21:00 to 00:00
Aug	08/08	18	19	64	100	29	35	Light rain throughout
Aug	09/08	16	17	18	54	10	23	None
Aug	10/08	18	18	21	28	4	10	None
Sept	17/09	15	16	33	51	30	33	None
Sept	18/09	16	17	11	28	28	32	None
Sept	19/09	16	17	7	85	24	27	None
Sept	20/09	16	16	17	84	17	24	Very light rain from 06:00
Sept	21/09	17	18	54	85	7	22	Very light rain from 03:00

Oct	11/10	9	11	5	86	14	18	Very light rain from 06:00
Oct	12/10	5	8	6	45	18	31	None
Oct	13/10	7	10	31	100	10	17	Very light rain from 00:00 to 03:00
Oct	14/10	10	11	9	100	17	21	None
Oct	15/10	16	17	46	100	21	29	None

- 4.13 The total number of bat contacts recorded across all monitoring locations and monitoring periods for each bat species/genera are provided in Figure 5 below.

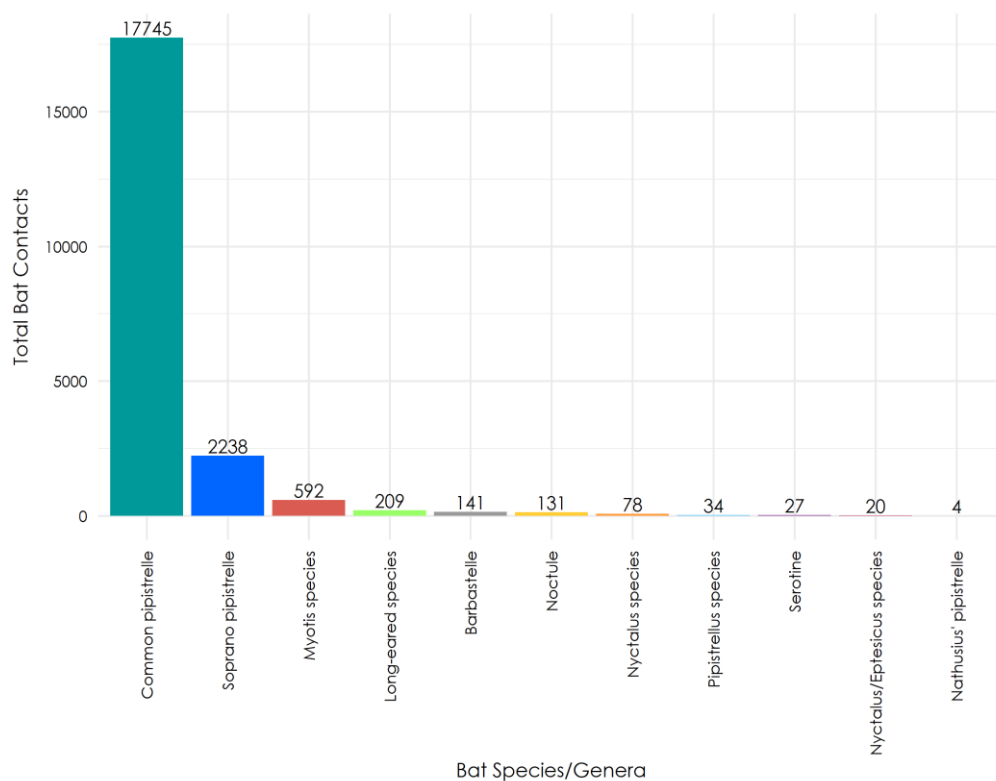


Figure 5. Total bat contacts by species/genera recorded across all remote monitoring periods and monitoring locations

- 4.14 Consistent with the results of the transect surveys, bat activity during the static monitoring was dominated by common pipistrelle (c. 83% of total bat contacts). The diversity of species is similar to that recorded during the night-time bat walkover surveys, with the addition of confirmed Nathusius' pipistrelle *Pipistrellus nathusii*.
- 4.15 Following common pipistrelle, there was a moderate presence of soprano pipistrelle (c. 11 % of total contacts) and *Myotis* sp. (42%) bats, though with far fewer contacts than common pipistrelle. The remaining species each comprise less than 1% of total contacts.
- 4.16 Figures 6 and 7 below show the variance in nightly activity levels for each of these bat species recorded on-site, with results of common pipistrelle

and soprano pipistrelle bats (Figure 6) displayed separately from those of the other species (Figure 7) to account for the markedly higher number of contacts recorded. More detailed data describing the figures are provided in Table 4. The activity data in the figures are presented as boxplots for each bat species, which show the inter-night variability in bat activity across the 35 nights monitored. The median value (middle line of the boxplot) is taken as the typical level of activity for that species at the point monitored. The length of each coloured boxplot is the interquartile range which shows the variance in nightly activity around the median value. The ends of each whisker line define the minimum and maximum nightly activity values recorded at the monitoring location. Outlying values are nightly activity levels that are greatly different when compared to the distribution of the remaining nightly activity levels. Outliers are illustrated as black points away from the boxplot. While important to note, these outliers do not represent the bat activity more commonly found within the Site for the species in question.

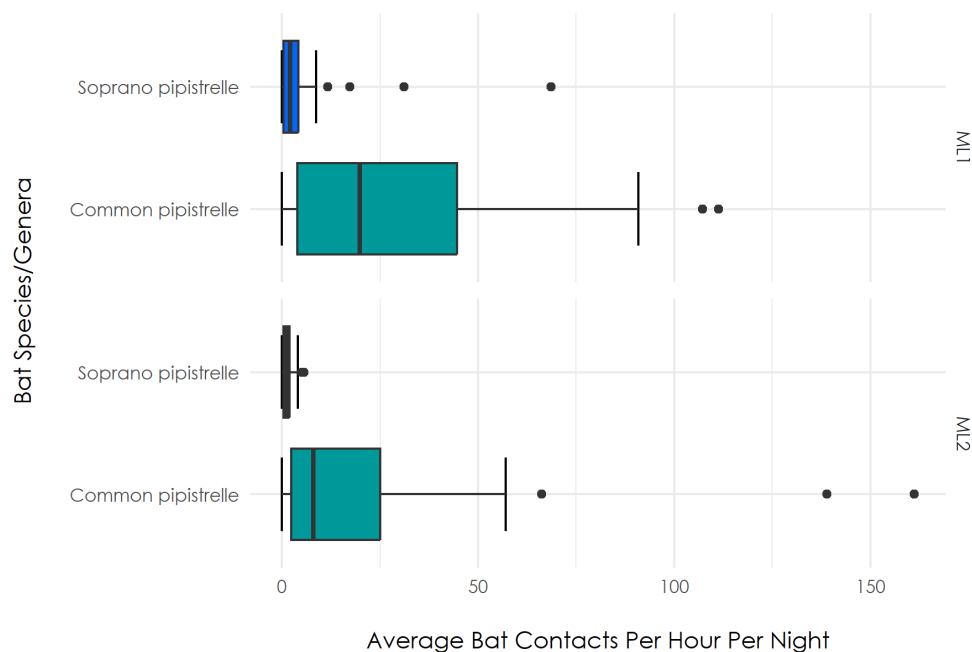


Figure 6. Average bat contacts per hour per night for the common pipistrelle and soprano pipistrelle bats recorded across all remote monitoring locations.

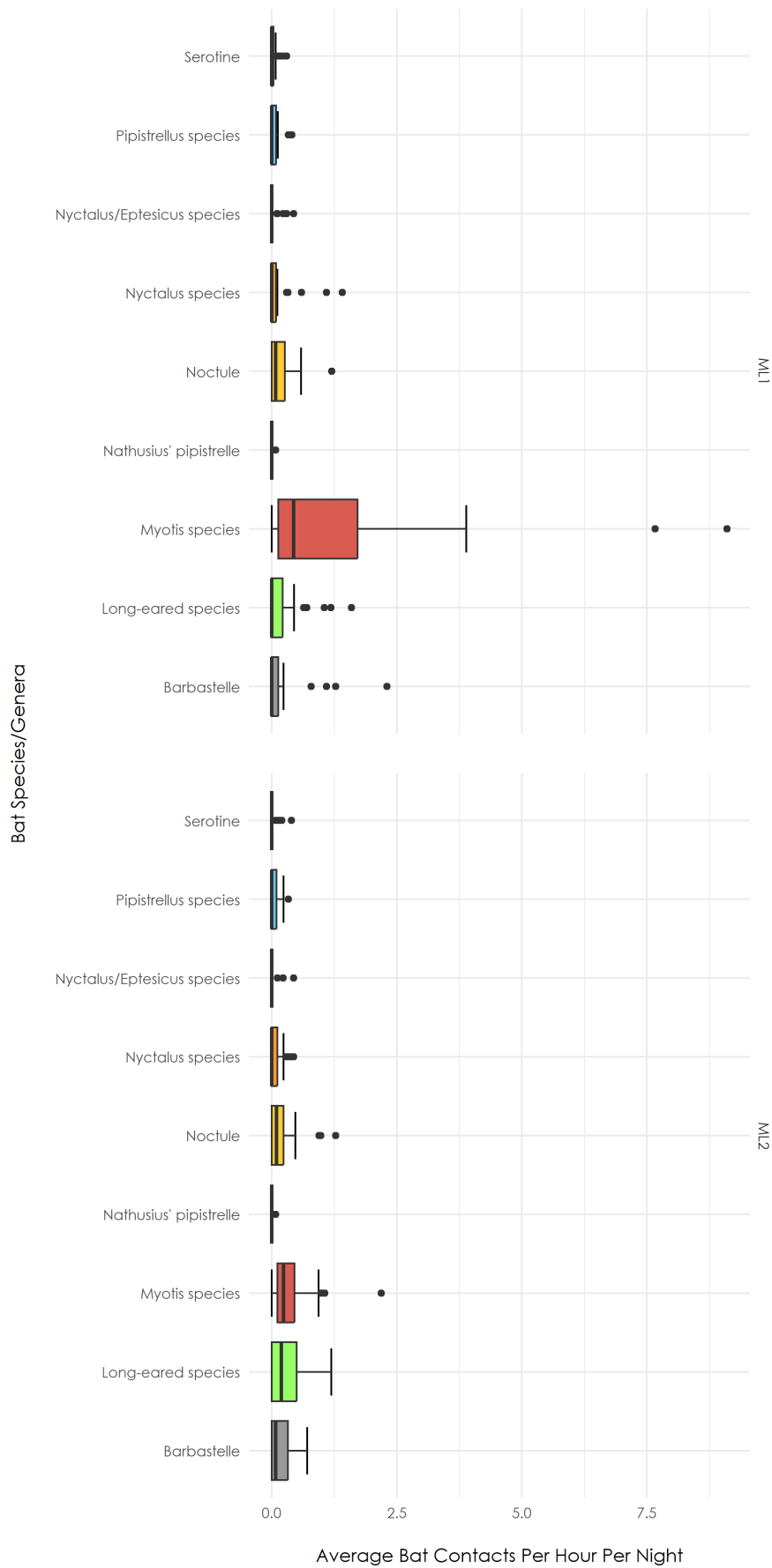


Figure 7. Average bat contacts per hour per night for the remaining bat species/genera recorded across all remote monitoring locations.

- 4.17 Soprano pipistrelle and *Myotis* sp. activity was markedly higher (more than x3 more contacts) at ML1 in the northern portion of the Site compared to ML2 present towards the south. Nathusius' pipistrelle activity was also three times higher at ML1 compared to ML2, however, this in relation to a very small number of contacts. A similar level of contacts across the remaining bat species/genera was observed between monitoring locations, with foraging and dispersal opportunities relatively widespread across the Site.
- 4.18 A total of 141 barbastelle contacts were detected across the remote monitoring surveys, c. 51% of which were recorded during the September monitoring period, followed by c. 19% in May. As discussed above, the number of contacts was broadly consistent between the two MLs. Although widely distributed across the south of England, barbastelle bats are nationally rare Annex II species noted for their susceptibility to disturbance by artificial lighting (Collins 2023; Reason & Wray 2023; Zeale & NE 2024).
- 4.19 Barbastelle contacts were detected at various times throughout the night relative to sunset and sunrise. Barbastelle were detected across 21 of the 35 nights monitored, suggesting the Site is utilised regularly by individuals as part of their foraging and dispersal zone. However, given the low number of average contacts per hour per night, compared to that of common pipistrelle for example, it is likely the individual barbastelles recorded used foraging habitats further afield during each night.
- 4.20 Of note, the Site is located c. 11.2km from the Mens SAC, of interest for its population of barbastelle. The Site is therefore present within the 12km 'wider conservation area' impact zone of the SAC, as set out within the draft Sussex Bat Special Area of Conservation Planning and Landscape Scale Enhancement Protocol (SDNPA and NE 2018), which covers the full extent of the foraging area utilised by the population.

Table 4. Average bat contacts per hour per night recorded during remote monitoring surveys.

ML	Species	Average bat contacts per hour per night				Total bat contacts	Number of nights monitored
		Minimum	Maximum	Median	IQ range		
ML1	Barbastelle	0	2.302	0.000	0.129	82	35
ML1	<i>Plecotus</i> sp.	0	1.596	0.000	0.217	82	35
ML1	Common pipistrelle	0	111.268	19.841	40.754	9909	35
ML1	<i>Myotis</i> species	0	9.101	0.435	1.588	458	35
ML1	Nathusius' pipistrelle	0	0.080	0.000	0.000	3	35
ML1	Noctule	0	1.202	0.079	0.262	63	35
ML1	<i>Nyctalus</i> species	0	1.408	0.000	0.089	50	35

ML1	Nyctalus/Eptesicus species	0	0.433	0.000	0.000	11	35
ML1	Pipistrellus species	0	0.401	0.000	0.083	15	35
ML1	Serotine	0	0.301	0.000	0.035	15	35
ML1	Soprano pipistrelle	0	68.632	2.065	3.754	1768	35
ML2	Barbastelle	0	0.708	0.079	0.321	59	35
ML2	Plecotus sp.	0	1.187	0.194	0.498	127	35
ML2	Common pipistrelle	0	161.188	7.938	22.724	7836	35
ML2	Myotis species	0	2.186	0.236	0.343	134	35
ML2	Nathusius' pipistrelle	0	0.079	0.000	0.000	1	35
ML2	Noctule	0	1.275	0.099	0.238	68	35
ML2	Nyctalus species	0	0.439	0.000	0.110	28	35
ML2	Nyctalus/Eptesicus species	0	0.437	0.000	0.000	9	35
ML2	Pipistrellus species	0	0.336	0.000	0.096	19	35
ML2	Serotine	0	0.392	0.000	0.000	12	35
ML2	Soprano pipistrelle	0	5.550	1.032	1.531	470	35

Summary

- 4.21 A total of 18 trees with the Site hold features that could support roosting bats.
- 4.22 Bat activity within the Site is dominated largely by common pipistrelle bats; a common and widespread species, with the activity largely associated with the boundary vegetation. Of note, a total of 141 contacts were recorded of the nationally rare barbastelle. The number of barbastelle contacts recorded per hour per night was significantly lower than other species, such as common pipistrelle; the individual barbastelles recorded are anticipated to be utilising the Site as part of a wider foraging and dispersal zone.



Site Boundary

Ground Level Tree Assessment Results:

- No features of note (negligible)
- Low roost suitability (PRF-I)
- High roost suitability (PRF-M)

Please note: PRF-M trees hold features that could be seen from ground level, but further surveys are only necessary if impacts are likely.



Project	Land North of Rectory Lane, Ashington, West Sussex	Date	July 2026	Drawing No.	CSA/4705/116
Drawing Title	Ground Level Tree Assessment (GLTA) Results	Scale	1:2,500	Rev	B
Client	Taylor Wimpey Strategic Land	Drawn	NS	Checked	JT