

**BAT SURVEY, AT -  
2 TINTERN CLOSE  
SIMONSTONE**

DATE AND TIME OF VISIT

27<sup>th</sup> Nov 2025 5.30pm

28<sup>th</sup> Nov 2025 8.30 am

WEATHER CONDITIONS

Overcast, slight drizzle, light westerly breeze 12C

REFERENCE NO 10-32



SURVEY CARRIED OUT BY: LYNNE RUSHWORTH  
SUNDERLAND PEACOCK & ASSOCIATES LTD  
HAZELMERE, PIMLICO ROAD, CLITHEROE  
LANCASHIRE, BB7 2AG  
T 01200 423178 F 01200 427328  
E [info@sunderlandpeacock.com](mailto:info@sunderlandpeacock.com)  
[www.sunderlandpeacock.com](http://www.sunderlandpeacock.com)

## UK BAT ECOLOGY

- It is thought that there are 18 native species of bats in the UK, most of which have seen declines in numbers over the last century.
- 11 Species have been recorded in Lancashire the most common being: -
  - **Common Pipistrelle** – Widely distributed across the UK. Known to roost in buildings and trees.
  - **Soprano Pipistrelle**- – Widely distributed across the UK. Known to roost in buildings and trees
  - **Whiskered / Brandts** – Roost mainly in buildings or trees.
  - **Long eared Bat** - Roost in older buildings, Barns, Churches and trees.
  - **Daubentons** - Known to roost in trees, tunnels, bridges, caves, mines and cellars near to lakes, rivers or ponds.
  - **Natterers** – Known to roost in old stone buildings, large timbered barns, tree holes, caves or mines.
- As insect feeding species the preferred habitats include woodland, grassland, agricultural land, wetland and rivers which provide good foraging potential.
- Bats typically roost close to foraging sites and use linear features such as hedgerows, tree lines and rivers to navigate. It is important to maintain these features, as removal is thought to contribute to the decline in numbers.
- Bats will roost in a wide variety of sites and built structures, including underground structures (caves, bridges) and trees. Types of roost and times of year used.

Hibernacula - November to March

Temporary roosts - March to April and August to October

Maternity roosts – May to August

Summer roosts – Used by Males and immature females

Mating roosts – September and October

- Disturbance to a Hibernacula or Maternity roost is the most damaging for any local bat population. The same Maternity roosts are typically used year after year commencing between May to early June and are colonised with mature females and their young, any disturbance can lead to abandonment of the young and loss of the roost will have a significant impact on the bat population. Hibernacula roosts typically consist of underground sites caves, cellars etc or buildings which maintain cool and fairly constant temperatures. Bats hibernate (deep sleep, torpor) to survive the winter months when insects are in short supply, so they hibernate to conserve energy and survive on their fat stores. Any disturbance which wakes the bats can result in unnecessary use of the energy reserves and thus reduces the chance of survival over the winter months.

**THIS SURVEY HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT BY: LYNNE RUSHWORTH WHO HAS SIXTEEN YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AND COMPLETED THE BAT CONSERVATION TRUST'S 'BATS AND BAT SURVEYS' FOUNDATION COURSE FOR CONSULTANTS, AND 'PLANNING AND PREPARATION OF BAT SURVEYS' COURSE EMERGENCE SURVEYS ARE CARRIED OUT WITH A SECOND SURVEYOR WITH SEVENTEEN YEARS EXPERIENCE OF ASSISTING ON EMERGENCE SURVEYS**

**THE BRIEF**

In conjunction with the submission of an application for planning approval, this survey was commissioned to identify if bats are currently present in the building, to assess if it has been used in the past or if there is any potential for future use of the building.

All British bats and their roosts are legally protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006

**BAT LEGISLATION - Summary of offences under the law:**

**Bats and the Law Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.**

Principally those relating to powers and penalties, have been amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW Act). The CRoW Act only applies to England and Wales.

Section 9(1) It is an offence for any person to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bat.

Section 9(4)(a) It is an offence to intentionally or recklessly\* damage, destroy or obstruct access to any place that a wild bat uses for shelter or protection. (\*Added by the CRoW Act in England and Wales only) This is taken to mean all bat roosts whether bats are present or not.

Section 9(4)(b) It is an offence to intentionally or recklessly\* disturb any wild bat while it is occupying a structure or place that it uses for shelter or protection. (\*Added by the CRoW Act in England and Wales only)

**The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994**

Section 39(1)

It is an offence to

(a) Deliberately to capture or kill any bat

(b) Deliberately to disturb any bat

(c) Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of any bat. The difference between this legislation and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 is the use of the word 'deliberately' rather than 'intentionally'. Also disturbance of bats can be anywhere, not just at a roost. Damage or destruction of a bat roost does not require the offence to be intentional or deliberate.

**Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act (2000) Part III Nature conservation and wildlife protection 74 Conservation of biological diversity**

(1) It is the duty of (a) any Minister of the Crown (within the meaning of the Ministers of the [1975 c. 26.] Crown Act 1975), (b) any Government department, and (c) the National Assembly for Wales, in carrying out his or its functions, to have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biological diversity in accordance with the Convention.

**The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) PART 3, (40): Duty to conserve biodiversity**

(1) Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity.

(2) Conserving biodiversity includes, in relation to a living organism or type of habitat, restoring or enhancing a population or habitat.

If it is discovered that development may impact upon bat roosts (thus leading to an offence being committed) a mitigation plan should be devised and a Bat Mitigation Licence applied for from the relevant government department (i.e. Natural England). Gaining a licence will depend on many variables, such as the bat species present, roost type, roost size and its local/regional/national importance

### **LIMITATIONS OF REPORT**

*NOTE: The absence of bats is near impossible to prove. The bats' high mobility means it is virtually impossible to rule out bats using any type of structure for roosting or habitat for foraging or on a flight path.*

- External walls and internal rooms inspected from ground level.
- Roof spaces, attics and lofts will only be inspected if safe access is possible.
- Winter surveys will provide limited results. However internal inspection should determine if bats have used the building in the previous year.
- Any building whose structure is considered dangerous can only be inspected from a safe distance. Crevice-roosting bats ie. Pipistrelles, some Myotis species and Brown long eared bats can remain unseen even after close inspection in small spaces ie. cavity walls, roof structures soffits or cladding.
- Bat roosting evidence ie. Droppings or insect remains can be removed by weather conditions or sweeping/cleaning internally so this lack of evidence cannot always prove undoubtedly that bats are absent.

### **EQUIPMENT USED ON SURVEY**

- 'BATSCANNER' BAT DETECTOR
- BINOCULARS
- SHADOWHAWK 12000 lumen HIGH POWERED LED TORCH
- LADDERS FOR HIGH LEVEL INSPECTION
- CAMERA

### **PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**

Two storey side extension. extension to existing house. And removal of existing single storey rear outshot.

Impact of development in relation to potential bat habitat: -

Disruption of the east roof pitch when the new extension will abut.

### **TYPE OF BUILDING**

The property is a detached 1 ½ storey House possibly dating from the 1960 /70s

There is a single storey flat roof rear extension



North Elevation



East Elevation



South Elevation

West Elevation

## **METHODOLOGY**

The survey methodology follows the guidelines published in the Bat Conservation Trusts (BCT- Bat surveys for professional Ecologists, good practice guidelines 4<sup>th</sup> Edition)

Scoping survey: (Non-invasive) carried out by one surveyor to assess if the site has any potential value for protected species and determine if bats are currently or have historically used the building.

Emergence survey: are conducted 20 minutes before sunset and up to two hours after. Emergence surveys are conducted between the months of April through to end of September (weather dependant).

October to April (winter months) bats are inactive during the hibernation period.

All surveyors used have many years experience in conducting bat emergence surveys.

## **CONSTRAINTS**

A scoping survey was carried out during the hibernation period.

All the structure was easily accessible.

## **AIMS OF THE SURVEY**

To ensure the proposed development will not affect any protected species

The survey will; Identify past, current or potential use of the site by protected species.

Assess any impact of the proposed development on these species

Outline a mitigation scheme for any species affected by the development (if required)

**LOCATION    SD768342    91 m elevation**

The house is located 264 m to the south of the main 'Whalley road' through Simonstone, on the southernmost edge of the settlement area.



**FORAGING POTENTIAL IN THE LOCATION**

The property is situated on a large housing estate on the southern boundary of the settlement area. The estate possibly dates from the 1960's/70's all the houses are of a similar type, and all are located in small gardens. Allotments are to the west of the site, and the rear boundary of the garden abuts large acreage pastureland. The immediate locality has a couple of significant mature broad leaf trees to the east which form a connection to a line of hedgerow which binds a field to the south, it extends in a southerly direction.

The location is considered to provide medium level of forage potential for bats.



### **WALL CONSTRUCTION**

The walls are a combination of Brick, Artificial stone , Render and sections with a white upvc cladding.



### **BAT ACCESS POINTS IN WALLS**

The walls do not provide any cracks or crevices suitable for bat ingress. The cladding tightly abuts the wall with no crevice behind.

### **ROOF CONSTRUCTION**

The roof is pitched with a tile finish and ridge tiles. Upvc fascia and barge boards project slightly from the walls with a boarded effect upvc soffit. The dormer roof present on the west elevation and the single storey flat roof both have a membrane finish with flush fitting upvc fascias. The gables have a upvc verge trim.





### **BAT ACCESS POINTS IN ROOF**

The tiles and ridge tiles are in good condition, all being very tight fitting with no slipped slates or gaps.



The soffits to the barge boards and fascias are in excellent condition and very tight fitting.



The upvc trim to the gable verge is in good condition and does not provide any access points. The flat roof structure was in excellent condition and could be closely inspected, it was found not provide any cracks or crevices with the potential for bat roost habitat



**ROOF SPACE**

Three roof voids were present in the building, all were accessible. Ceiling access to the under-ridge void, the rafters have quilt insulation between, quilt is also present between the ceiling joists. The space is clean the boarding to the floor is free of any droppings or insect remain feeding evidence.



The two eaves' voids were accessed via wall hatches, insulation etc as before. The space is clean the boarding to the floor is free of any droppings or insect remain feeding evidence. The voids had no evidence of current or historic bat presence. They did not provide any potential habitat for void roosting bats

	Yes	No
<b><u>BAT SIGNS, EXTERNAL</u></b>		
SEEN		X
DROPPINGS		X
BATSCANNER BAT DETECTOR RESULT		N/A

The external features of the house were the focus of this scoping survey, it was examined for any droppings, grease marks or staining. No evidence was found. No access points were observed in the building.

**BAT SIGNS, INTERNAL**

	Yes	No
SIGHTED		X
DROPPINGS		X
DETECTOR RESULTS		X
STAINING/GREASE MARKS		X
SUSPECT SUMMER ROOST		X
SUSPECT WINTER HIBERNACULA		X
INSECT OR MOTH FEEDING EVIDENCE		X

Bats are not present in this building.

**CONCLUSION**

The location does provide some forage potential for bats; however the extension will not impact on any vegetation nor result in breaking any potential commute/ forage routes.

The building does not provide any access points with the potential to provide roost habitat for bats.

The removal of the existing outshot will not impact on any local bat population by removing any roost potential.

No further survey effort is needed nor is any mitigation necessary. However, roost enhancement should be incorporated see below.

### Beaumaris Bat Box

It is essential that roost enhancement measures should be incorporated in the [scheme](#). The basic requirement being that some **Skyl Beaumaris (or similar)** bat boxes be fixed to the [South east / south west](#) elevations, relatively sheltered from strong winds and ideally 3-4m above ground level., in accordance with manufacturer's instructions

See [illustration below](#).

[Home](#) > [Beaumaris Bat Box](#)



**All contractors should be made aware of their responsibilities to protected species and work should proceed with due diligence and in the unlikely event that any bats are discovered work must be stopped immediately and a licensed bat worker must be contacted for advice on how to proceed**

### **RISK ASSESSMENT**

(The level of probability that bats are using the property is calculated on the evidence found.)

LOW

### **NOTES:**

The provisions below should be incorporated in the unlikely event that any bats are found to be present in the intervening time between surveys and work commencing on site.

**When bats are found to be present in a building:**

- A NATURAL ENGLAND licence will be required before any building work is undertaken.
- Pointing work should not be undertaken during winter months as hibernating bats might be entombed.

- Work to roof structure should not be undertaken between late May, June, July and August.
- Small areas of wall could be left un-pointed to encourage potential roosting sites.
- Care must be taken when removing existing roof timbers, and any new timbers or treatment of existing timbers must be carried out using chemicals listed as safe for bat roosts.
- NOTE: The onus lies with the applicant to satisfy themselves that no offence will be committed if the development goes ahead.

If bats are ever found during building work, stop work immediately and contact the Bat Conservation Trust or Natural England.

The Bat Conservation Trust  
 Quadrant House  
 250 Kennington Lane

Natural England  
 Cheshire-Lancashire Team  
 2nd Floor, Arndale House

London SE11 5RD

Manchester M4 3AQ

0845 1300 228

0300 060 3900

## **LIVING WITH BATS**

The integration of bat roosting habitat will not cause disturbance to the inhabitants nor visually affect the property. It can be incorporated easily and comply with Planning and building regulation requirements.

Bats do not nibble or gnaw at wires, insulation or timbers. The droppings are dry and crumbly without a strong aroma and have no known health risks with them.

- **Bats are not rodents**, and will not nibble or gnaw at wood, wires or insulation.
- **Bats do not build nests** and therefore do not bring bedding material into the roost; neither do they bring their insect prey into the roost.
- **All bats in the UK eat insects**, so they are a great form of natural pest control!
- **Bat droppings** in the UK are dry and crumble away to dust. As a result, there are no known health risks associated with them.
- **Female bats usually have only one baby a year**, so properties do not become 'infested'.
- **Most bats are seasonal visitors** to buildings - they are unlikely to live in the same building all year round, although they are loyal to their roosts and so usually return to the same roosts year after year.
- **Bats are clean and sociable animals** and spend many hours grooming themselves.