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Bat Emergence and Re-Entry Surveys (BERS)

Survey site:

Premier inn Portsmouth (Havant) 65 Bedhampton Hill, Havant PO9 3JN

Client:

Whitbread Group PLC

Report date:

1st July 2025

Project:

This report is prepared to inform a planning application with the Havant Borough Council. The proposal is described as:
The construction of a 30-bedroom annexe to the existing Premier Inn building alongside the demolition of the existing restaurant to facilitate a new 37-bedroom annexe, and a Solus 1.5 restaurant conversion of 7 bedrooms is proposed at the ground floor of the existing hotel [Unsubmitted]

This report is supplementary to the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Roost Assessment report completed by Arbtech Consulting Ltd (2024).
BERS survey methodology and legislation can be found in the Arbtech Supplement: **BERS Methodology and Legislation - 2024.**

This report is an addendum to and must be read in conjunction with the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Roost Assessment completed by Arbtech Consulting Limited (2024) for the same site address. This table may include further work you will need to commission (if any) to obtain planning permission or comply with legislation for other consent. All clients are expected to read and understand this section, or to contact the consultant for advice.

Executive Summary

Report Validity: This report is valid for up to 18 months for the purposes of planning/LBC applications. For the purposes of bat licencing, the report is considered 'up to date' and suitable for licence application until the start of the following bat activity season. After those timeframes, some level of updated surveys will be required. The level of survey effort will depend on the specific circumstances of the site.

Results

B1 and B2

The surveys undertaken to date have indicated that there is a sufficiently low risk of bat roosts being present on site, and works can proceed without any further survey or licence requirements.

Background

PRA – Arbtech Consulting Ltd (September 2024) No evidence of bats was identified within either building. B1 was valued as having moderate habitat value for roosting bats, and B2 was valued as having high habitat value for roosting bats.

Number of buildings on site – 2 buildings.

Number of buildings surveyed – 2 buildings.

Proposed development

Current use of building – Commercial

Proposed use of building –No change

Structural changes to building – B1 is due to be demolished. Two storey extension will be erected on the northern elevation of B2.

Type of permission required –full planning permission

The site surveys were designed and managed by Consultant Ecologist Romany Poole BSc (Hons) MSc, [Accredited Agent on Natural England Bat Licence].

See surveyor locations in the BERS plan in Appendix 1, proposed plans in Appendix 2,

Limitations	**All surveys** • Artificial lighting from lamps and security lighting outside the hotel throughout the duration of all of the surveys. IR was adjusted in order to have a darker view of the buildings. • Unable to position surveyors and/or cameras in the middle section of the west facing elevation of B2, given the amount of activity on the site this is unlikely to affect the survey results. Surveyors were in continuous communication via radios throughout the survey to determine the flight path of any bats seen flying away from this area and rule out any emergences. • Lack of surveyors to cover B2, however additional IR was utilised to provide full coverage.

Field Survey

Dusk Emergence Survey 1

Building B1

Surveyor and position

Surveyor Position	Name	BERS Experience / Bat Licence	BCT Competency	Elevation
1	Unmanned IR	N/A		Observing northeast
2- Lead	Sarah Facey	8 years	Level 2	Observing west corner
3	Harvey Yates	3 years	Level 2	Observing
4	Andy Forse	1 year	Level 2	Observing east elevation

Weather (start/end)

Temperature (°C): 19.7 Relative humidity (%): 72 Cloud cover (%): 10 Wind (mph): 8 Rain: None	Temperature (°C): 17.2 Relative humidity (%): 84 Cloud cover (%): 0 Wind (mph): 8.1 Rain: None

Equipment used

Equipment	Make	Model	Count
NVAs	Nightfox	Whisker	4
Additional Illumination	Nightfox	XB5 PRO	4

	Bat Detector	Wildlife Acoustics	Echo Meter Touch 2	4
	Two Way Radio	BAOFENG	FV-88E	4
Results				
Date of survey		**Sunset; Start - End**		
14/05/2024		Sunset 20:42; 20:27 – 22:02		
Surveyor observations				
Surveyor 1	No emergences or activity observed or heard throughout the survey.			
IR position 1 *1x Nightfox Whisker + 1x Nightfox XB5 torch*	Camera position: observing the north-west and south-west elevations from the west. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 1 with no additional activity observed**			

Surveyor 2	No emergences or activity observed or heard throughout the survey.	
IR position 2	Camera position: observing the north-west and south-west elevations from the west. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 2 with no additional activity observed**	

Surveyor 3	No emergences or activity observed or heard throughout the survey.	
IR Position 3 *1x Nightfox Whisker + 1x Nightfox XB5 torch*	Camera position: observing south corner of building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 3 with no additional activity observed**	

Surveyor 4	No emergences or activity observed or heard throughout the survey.	
IR Position 4 *1x Nightfox Whisker + 1x Nightfox XB5 torch*	Camera position: observing east elevation of building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 4 with no additional activity observed**	

Field Survey					
Dusk Emergence Survey 1					
Building B2					
Surveyor and position	**Surveyor Position**	**Name**	**BERS Experience / Bat Licence**	**BCT Competency**	**Elevation**
	1 -	Kieran Homan	1 year	Level 2	Observing south
	2-	Unmanned camera	N/A	N/A	Observing west elevation
	3-	James Pitter	1 year	Level 2	Observing the east elevation
	4-	Unmanned camera	N/A	N/A	Observing the east elevation
	5-	Kelly Clarke	3 years bat survey experience (Accredited Agent on Natural England Bat Licence Number: (2018-33540-CLS-CLS	Level 2	Observing the east elevation
	6-	Unmanned camera	N/A	N/A	Observing the east elevation
	7- Lead	Joanna Andrews	13 years bat survey experience (Accredited Agent on Natural England Bat Licence Number: (2018-37888-CLS-CLS)	Level 2	Observing the north and norther end of the west elevations
Weather (start/end)	Temperature (°C): 20 Relative humidity (%): 72 Cloud cover (%): 10 Wind (mph): 8 Rain: None		Temperature (°C): 17 Relative humidity (%): 84 Cloud cover (%): 0 Wind (mph): 8.1 Rain: None		

Equipment used	**Equipment**	**Make**	**Model**	**Count**
	NVAs	Nightfox	Whisker	5
		Nightfox	Red	2
	Additional Illumination	Nightfox	XB5 PRO	4

	Bat Detector	Wildlife Acoustics	Echo Meter Touch 2	4
	Two Way Radio	BAOFENG	FV-88E	4
Results				
Date of survey		**Sunset; Start - End**		
14/05/2024		Sunset 20:42; 20:27 – 22:02		
Surveyor observations				
Surveyor 1	No emergences or activity observed or heard throughout the survey.			
IR position 1 *1x Nightfox Whisker*	Camera position: observing Southern elevation of building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 1 with no additional activity observed.**			

IR Position 2 *Nightfox Whisker* *(Unmanned)*	Camera position: observing Western elevation of building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of position 2 with no additional activity observed.**	

Surveyor 3	Summary of general activity: **No emergences were observed.** The first bat detected was a myotis species at 21:42 that was heard but not seen. The final bat detected was a common pipistrelle at 21:54 that was heard but not seen. No additional observations were made during the survey.	
IR position 3	Camera position: facing northwest, observing the east elevation of building 2. Summary of general activity: **No emergences were observed.** The first bat detected was a myotis species at 21:41. 3 further sightings between 21:42 and 21:44 of a myotis species were observed. The final bat detected was an unidentified species at 21:51. No additional observations were made during the survey. Species ID confirmed by sound analysis post survey	

IR position 4 *1 x Firefox Whisker* *1 x Firefox XB5 PRO*	**No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 4 with no additional activity observed.**	
Surveyor 5	**No emergences were observed**. Two bats were detected during the survey. The first bat was a Myotis species at 21:41, which was heard but not seen. The last bat was a common pipistrelle that was heard by not seen at 21:55.	

IR Position 5 *1x Nightfox Whisker* *1x Nightfox XB5 torch*	Camera position: observing east elevation of building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 5 with no additional activity observed.**	
IR position 6	Camera position: observing the eastern elevation of the building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of position 6 with no additional activity observed.**	

Surveyor 7	No emergences or activity observed or heard throughout the survey.	
IR Position 7 *Nightfox Red* *1x camera* *1x IR torch* *1x IR floodlight*	Camera position: observing the north and northern end of the west elevations of the building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 7 with no additional activity observed.**	

Field Survey					
Dusk Emergence Survey 2					
Building B1					
Surveyor and position	**Surveyor Position**	**Name**	**BERS Experience / Bat Licence**	**BCT Competency**	**Elevation**
	1 -	Unmanned IR	N/A	N/A	Observing north west
	2	Andy Forse	1 years	Level 2	Observing west corner
	3	Sarah Facey	8 years	Level 2	Observing the south corner
	4	Romany Poole	4 years	Level 2	Observing east elevation
Weather (start/end)	Temperature (°C): 13 Relative humidity (%): 85 Cloud cover (%): 30 Wind (mph): 6.2 Rain: None			Temperature (°C): 12 Relative humidity (%): 88 Cloud cover (%): 50 Wind (mph): 5.4 Rain: None	

Equipment used	**Equipment**	**Make**	**Model**	**Count**
	NVAs	Nightfox	Whisker	4
	Additional Illumination	Nightfox	XB5 PRO	4
	Bat Detector	Wildlife Acoustics	Echo Meter Touch 2	4
	Two Way Radio	BAOFENG	FV-88E	4

Results		
Date of survey	**Sunset; Start - End**	
04/06/2025	Sunset 21:10; 20:55 – 22:40	
Surveyor observations		
IR position 1 *1x Nightfox Whisker + 1x Nightfox XB5 torch*	Camera position: observing the north-west and south-west elevations from the west. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of position 1 with no additional activity observed.**	
Surveyor 2	**No emergences observed** There were three occurrences of bats that were heard but not seen. A noctule at 22:17 and a serotine at 22:22 and 22:25.	

IR position 2	Camera position: observing the north-west and south-west elevations from the west. **No emergences observed** No emergences were observed on review. One pass by an unidentified bat high over the building from west to east was observed at 22:10.	
Surveyor 3	No emergences observed throughout the survey. Occasional brief noctule passes were heard but not seen between 21:19 and 22:20. A serotine was heard but not seen at 22:25	

IR Position 3 *1x Nightfox Whisker + 1 x IR array lamp*	Camera position: observing south corner of building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 3 with no additional activity observed.**	
Surveyor 4	No emergences observed. Occasional brief noctule passes were heard but not seen between 21:19 and 22:20.	

IR Position 4 *1x Nightfox Whisker + 1x Nightfox XB5 torch*	Camera position: observing east elevation of building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 4 with no additional activity observed.**	

Field Survey					
Dusk Emergence Survey 2					
Building B2					
Surveyor and position	**Surveyor Position**	**Name**	**BERS Experience / Bat Licence**	**BCT Competency**	**Elevation**
	1 -	Ashleigh Domblides	4 years bat survey experience – Natural England Bat Licence Number: 2025-12729-CL17-BAT	Level 2	Observing south
	2-	Unmanned camera	N/A	N/A	Observing south
	3-Lead	Joanna Andrews	13 years bat survey experience (Accredited Agent on Natural England Bat Licence Number: (2018-37888-CLS-CLS)	Level 2	Observing the east elevation
	4-	Unmanned camera	N/A	N/A	Observing the east elevation
	5-	Joe Crook	7 years bat survey experience (Accredited Agent on Natural England Bat Licence Number: (2018-37888-CLS-CLS)	Level 1	observing the southern half of the east facing elevation.
	6-	Unmanned camera	N/A	N/A	Observing the east elevation
	7-	James Pitter	1 year bat survey experiance	Level 2	Observing the north and norther end of the west elevations
Weather (start/end)	Temperature (°C): 15.9 Relative humidity (%): 42 Cloud cover (%): 40 Wind (mph): 8 Rain: None			Temperature (°C): 13 Relative humidity (%): 68 Cloud cover (%): 60 Wind (mph): 8.1 Rain: None	

Equipment used	**Equipment**	**Make**	**Model**	**Count**
	NVAs	Nightfox	Whisker	5

		Nightfox	Red	2
	Additional Illumination	Nightfox	XB5 PRO	3
	Bat Detector	Wildlife Acoustics	Echo Meter Touch 2	4
	Two Way Radio	BAOFENG	FV-88E	4

Results		
Date of survey	**Sunset; Start - End**	
05/06/2024	Sunset 21:10; 20:55 – 22:40	
Surveyor observations		
Surveyor 1	No emergences or activity observed or heard throughout the survey.	
IR position 1 *1x Nightfox Whisker*	Camera position: observing Southern elevation of building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 1 with no additional activity observed.**	
IR Position 2	Camera position: observing Western elevation of building.	

Nightfox Whisker *(Unmanned)*	**No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of position 2 with no additional activity observed.**	
Surveyor 3	No emergences or activity observed or heard throughout the survey.	

IR position 3 *Nightfox Red* *1x camera* *1x IR torch* *1x IR floodlight*	Camera position: observing the northern half of the east facing elevations of the building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 3 with no additional activity observed.**	
Unmanned IR position 4 *1 x Nightfox Whisker* *1 x Nightfox XB5 PRO*	No additional observations or bat activity recorded upon review.	

Surveyor 5	No emergences or activity observed or heard throughout the survey.	
IR Position 5 *Nightfox Red* *1x camera* *1x IR torch* *1x IR floodlight*	Camera position: observing east elevation of building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 5 with no additional activity observed.**	

IR position 6	Camera position: observing the eastern elevation of the building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 6 with no additional activity observed.**	
Surveyor 7	No emergences or activity observed or heard throughout the survey.	

IR Position 7 *1 x Nightfox Whisker 1* *x Nightfox XB5 PRO*	Camera position: observing the north elevation of the building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 7 with no additional activity observed.**	

Field Survey					
Dusk Emergence Survey 3					
Building B2					
Building inspection prior to survey	A loft inspection was carried out by Joanna Andrews (Accredited Agent on Natural England Bat Licence Number: (2018-37888-CLS-CLS). No evidence of roosting bats within the loft void. No changes differing from the PRA.				
Surveyor and position	**Surveyor Position**	**Name**	**BERS Experience / Bat Licence**	**BCT Competency**	**Elevation**
	1 -	Vicki Clarke	1 year bat survey experience	Level 2	Observing south
	2-	Unmanned camera	N/A		Observing south
	3-Lead	Matthew Surry	4 years bat survey experience	Level 1	Observing the east elevation
	4-	Unmanned camera	N/A	N/A	Observing the east elevation
	5- Lead	Joanna Andrews	13 years bat survey experience (Accredited Agent on Natural England Bat Licence Number: (2018-37888-CLS-CLS)	Level 2	observing the southern half of the east facing elevation.
	6-	Unmanned camera	N/A	N/A	Observing the east elevation

	7-	James Pitter	1 year	Level 2	Observing the north and norther end of the west elevations

Weather (start/end)	Temperature (°C): 20.8 Relative humidity (%): 40 Cloud cover (%): 10 Wind (mph): 0.8 Rain: None	Temperature (°C): 18.9 Relative humidity (%): 52 Cloud cover (%): 0 Wind (mph): 0.5 Rain: None

Equipment used	**Equipment**	**Make**	**Model**	**Count**
	NVAs	Nightfox	Whisker	5
		Nightfox	Red	2
	Additional Illumination	Nightfox	XB5 PRO	3
	Bat Detector	Wildlife Acoustics	Echo Meter Touch 2	4
	Two Way Radio	BAOFENG	FV-88E	4

Results		
Date of survey	**Sunset; Start - End**	
25/06/2024	Sunset 21:22; 21:07 – 22:52	
Surveyor observations		
Surveyor 1	No emergences or activity observed or heard throughout the survey.	
IR position 1 *1x Nightfox Whisker*	Camera position: observing Southern elevation of building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 1 with no additional activity observed.**	

IR Position 2 *Nightfox Whisker* *(Unmanned)*	Camera position: observing Western elevation of building. No additional observations or bat activity recorded upon review.	
Surveyor 3	**No emergences were observed.** Passes by two common pipistrelles and two noctules were seen over the centre of the hotel between 21:52 and 22:11.	

IR position 3 *Nightfox Whisker* *1x camera* *1x IR torch* *1x IR floodlight*	Camera position: observing the northern half of the east facing elevations of the building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 3 with no additional activity observed.**	
Unmanned IR position 4 *1 x Nightfox Whisker* *1 x Nightfox XB5 PRO*	Camera position: observing the north and northern half of the east facing elevations of the building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of position 4 with no additional activity observed.**	

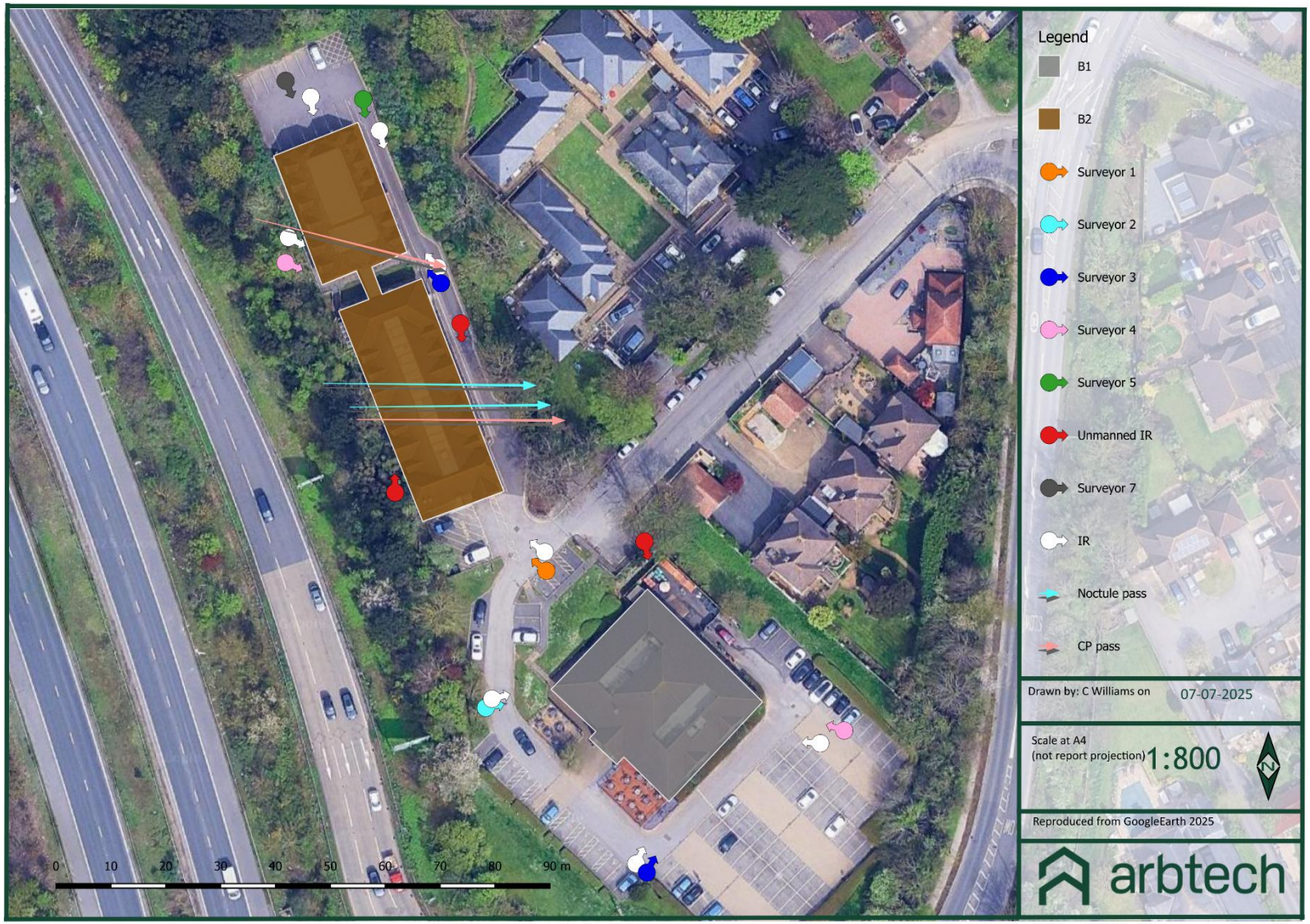
Surveyor 5	**No emergences were observed**. Two passes by common pipistrelles and two passes by noctules were observed between 21:52 and 22:11. The two common pipistrelles were seen heading in an easterly direction over the connecting corridor between the northern and southern sections of B2. The two noctules were seen flying in a westerly direction over the connecting corridor.	
IR Position 5 *Nightfox Red* *1x camera* *1x IR torch* *1x IR floodlight*	Camera position: observing the southern half of the east facing elevations of the building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 5 with no additional activity observed.**	

IR position 6	Camera position: observing the eastern elevation of the building. No additional observations or bat activity recorded upon review.	
Surveyor 7	No emergences or activity observed or heard throughout the survey.	

IR Position 7 *1 x Nightfox Whisker 1* *x Nightfox XB5 PRO*	Camera position: observing the north elevation of the building. **No emergences observed. The footage reflected the view of surveyor 7 with no additional activity observed.**	

Conclusions, Impacts and Recommendations	
Survey Results Summary	**General bat activity on site:** There was very limited bat activity on site throughout all three surveys. This may be due to the high levels of artificial lighting on both B1 and B2. Key foraging areas – No foraging was observed on site throughout the three surveys. Key flight lines – Across the centre of B2 heading NE to SW Species observed – Common pipistrelle, noctule and serotine. **Hibernation suitability:** Negligible – no suitable habitat – no further surveys required
Impact Assessment	No impacts foreseen to roosting, foraging or commuting bats. The site is highly lit by artificial lighting, therefore, additional lighting on site is not expected to have any impact on the overall light levels and is unlikely to impact foraging and commuting bats.
Recommendations	In the unlikely event that a bat or evidence of bats is discovered during the development all work must stop and a bat licensed ecologist contacted for further advice.
Enhancements	Integrated bat boxes x2 will be installed in the new extension. These will be placed high up at eaves level, face south/south west if possible, and be unlit by artificial light.

Appendix 1: BERS plan



Appendix 2: Proposed plans

Limitations and Copyright

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Version control			
Status	**Issue**	**Name**	**Date**
Draft	0.1	Romany Poole BSc (Hons), MSc Consultant Ecologist	01/07/2025
Proof	0.2	Ashleigh Domblides BA (Hons), Consultant Ecologist	03/07/2025
Final	1.0	Romany Poole BSc (Hons), MSc Consultant Ecologist	07/07/2025