

Bat Emergence/Re-Entry Surveys (BERS)

Survey site:

Kesson House, Northfleet, Kent, DA11 9HN

Client:

Atelier-SM Architects

Report date:

17th June 2024

Project:

This report is prepared to inform a planning application with the Gravesham Borough Council. The proposal is described as:

The construction of a care home

[Unsubmitted]

BERS survey methodology and legislation can be found in the Arbtech Supplement: [BERS Methodology and Legislation - 2024.](#)

This report is supplementary to a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) carried out by Arbtech Consulting on 25th March 2024.

These tables 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 these sections, or to contact the lead surveyor for advice.

The site surveys were designed and managed by Craig Williams BSc, MSc, MRSB (Natural England Protected Species Licence Number: [Bats] (2018-33540-CLS-CLS), Principal Ecologist at Arbtech Consulting Ltd.

See surveyor locations in the **BERS plan in Appendix 1.**

Field Surveys

Dusk Emergence Survey 1

Building B1

Notes on building inspection if undertaken

None undertaken on date

Surveyor and position

Surveyor 1 – Rachel Wick– 2 year’s bat survey experience – observing the eastern elevation of B1
Surveyor 2 – Elodie Noyes-Gouan – 3 year’s bat survey experience – observing the eastern and southern elevations of B1
Surveyor 3 – Helen Worlock – 10 years bat survey experience – observing the southern elevations of B1
Surveyor 4 – Luke Pembroke – 2 year’s bat survey experience – observing the southern and western elevations of B1
Surveyor 5 – Diego Landaberea– 2 year’s bat survey experience – observing the northern and western elevations of B1
Surveyor 6 – Harry Switala – 2 year’s bat survey experience – observing the northern elevation of B1
Surveyor 7 – Akash Barua– 2 year’s bat survey experience – observing the northern elevation of B1

Weather (start/end)

Temperature (°C): 14

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		Relative humidity (%): 82 Cloud cover (%): 20 Wind (kmph): 8 Rain: None			Relative humidity (%): 87 Cloud cover (%): 30 Wind (kmph): 6 Rain: None		
Equipment used		Echometer Touch and batbox duet detectors, IR cameras (nightfox whisker), IR torches.					
Results summary							
Date of survey	Start, end and sunset time	Species and numbers	Roost type	Survey Structure reference	Roost location	Access points (include # of them)	Dimensions and explanation of roost location
20/05/2024	20:35 – 22:20 20:50	No roosts	No roosts	B1	No roosts	No roosts	No roosts
Individual Surveyor observations (roosting behaviour bolded)							
Surveyor 1		A Common pipistrelle (<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>) was distantly heard at 22:07.					
Surveyor 2		Common pipistrelles were distantly heard at 21:29, 21:50 and 22:05.					
Surveyor 3		A Common pipistrelle was distantly heard at 21:36.					
Surveyor 4		A Common pipistrelle was distantly heard at 21:36.					
Surveyor 5		No bat activity heard.					
Surveyor 6		A Common pipistrelle was distantly heard at 21:30.					
Surveyor 7		No bat activity heard.					

Dusk Emergence Survey 2							
Building B1							
Notes on building inspection if undertaken		None undertaken on date					
Surveyor and position		Surveyor 1 - Vicki Breakell – 2 year's bat survey experience – observing the eastern elevation of B1 Surveyor 2 – Elodie Noyes-Gouan – 3 year's bat survey experience – observing the eastern and southern elevations of B1 Surveyor 3 – Autumn Nielsen – 2 year's bat survey experience – observing the southern elevations of B1 Surveyor 4 – Oliver Skipwith – 4 year's bat survey experience – observing the southern and western elevations of B1 Surveyor 5 – Luke Pembroke – 2 year's bat survey experience – observing the northern and western elevations of B1 Surveyor 6 – Helen Worlock – 10 years bat survey experience – observing the northern elevation of B1 Surveyor 7 – Taja Barber– 2 year's bat survey experience – observing the northern elevation of B1					
Weather (start/end)		Temperature (°C): 11 Relative humidity (%): 75 Cloud cover (%): 20 Wind (kmph): 8 Rain: None			Temperature (°C): 10 Relative humidity (%): 85 Cloud cover (%): 90 Wind (kmph): 5 Rain: None		
Equipment used		Echometer Touch and batbox duet detectors, IR cameras (nightfox whisker), IR torches.					
Results summary							
Date of survey	Start, end and sunset time	Species and numbers	Roost type	Survey Structure reference	Roost location	Access points (include # of them)	Dimensions and explanation of roost location
10/06/2024	20:59 – 22:44 21:14	No roosts	No roosts	B1	No roosts	No roosts	No roosts

Individual Surveyor observations (roosting behaviour bolded)	
<i>Surveyor 1</i>	A Common pipistrelle was seen flying along the southern boundary at 21:44 and they were then heard at 22:23 and 22:36.
<i>Surveyor 2</i>	Common pipistrelles were seen to forage to the south of the building between 21:44 and 22:15 before leaving the area.
<i>Surveyor 3</i>	A Common pipistrelle was distantly heard at 22:23.
<i>Surveyor 4</i>	First bat recorded at 21:44, a common pipistrelle commuting north. Following this, infrequent activity recorded (likely the same bat(s) foraging around the building) from common pipistrelles. Last bat recorded at 22:37, a common pipistrelle heard not seen.
<i>Surveyor 5</i>	A Common pipistrelle was distantly heard at 22:33.
<i>Surveyor 6</i>	A Common pipistrelle was distantly heard at 21:31.
<i>Surveyor 7</i>	Common pipistrelles were seen to pass the site at 22:15 and 22:23.



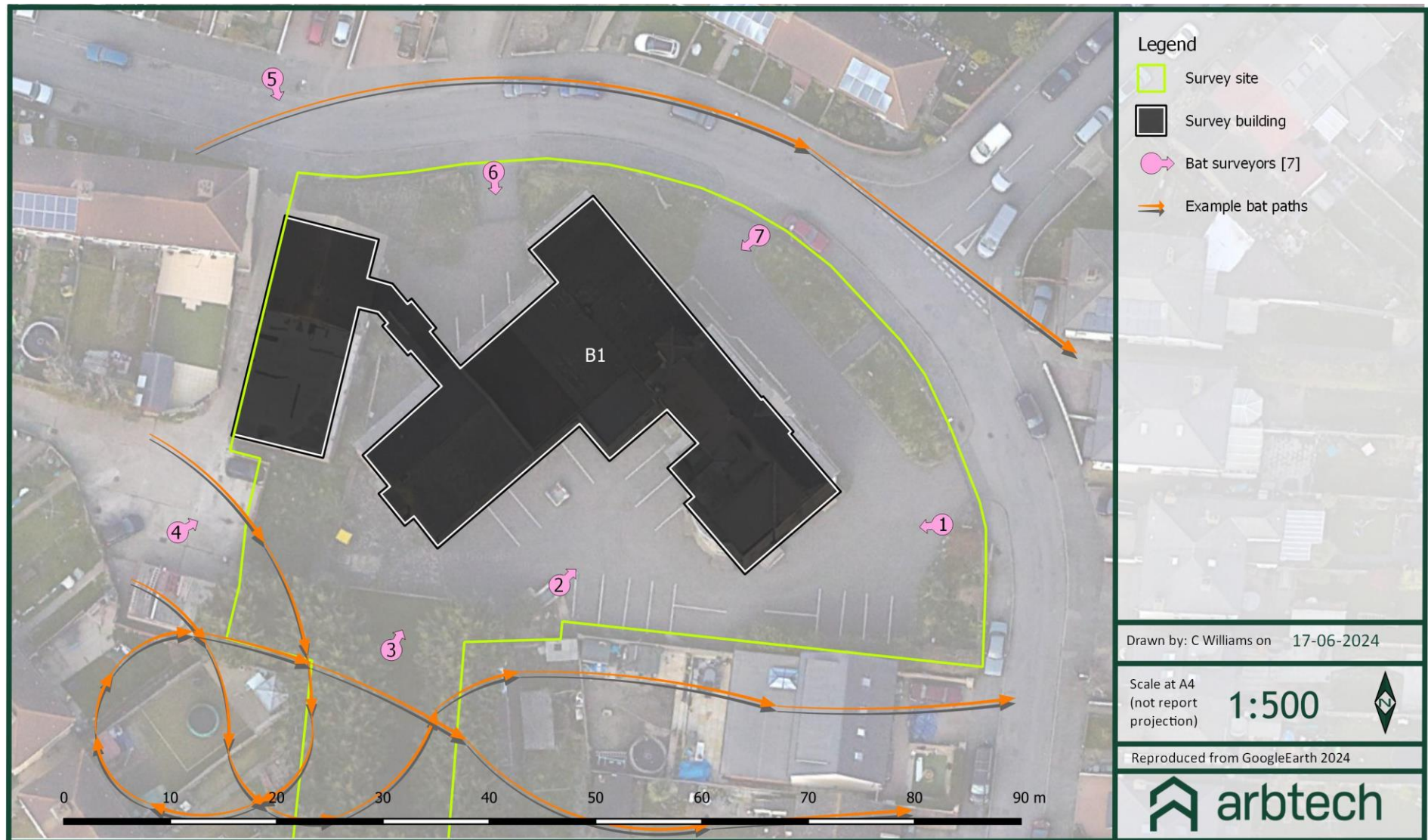
Photo 1: The northern elevation of B1 before the survey on 10/06/2024



Photo 2: The eastern end of B1 on 10/06/2024 showing the darkest part of the survey from an IR camera.

Conclusions, Impacts and Recommendations	
<i>Limitations</i>	There were no limitations (e.g. weather, surveyor visibility, health and safety etc.) to the surveys.
<i>Survey Results Summary</i>	No bat roosts were observed during the surveys.
<i>Impact Assessment</i>	No bat roosts are considered affected by the proposals.
<i>Recommendations</i>	None required.
<i>Enhancements</i>	Woodcrete crevice bat box on a suitable retained tree (3-5m high, south or south-west side without illumination or obstruction e.g. branches), with nearby linear bat commuting habitat.

Appendix 1: BERS plan



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