

# BAT SCOPING SURVEYS

There are 18 species of bat in the UK. All species have been known to use buildings. Many species will also roost in cavities and crevices within trees

## What happens during the survey?

- An ecologist who holds a Bat Survey Licence will attend site during the daytime.
- If buildings are present, access into any roof voids or basements is required. We will inspect the building for signs of bats, or places where they may roost.
- Trees will be inspected from ground level using endoscopes, binoculars and torches.



- Data is logged electronically to produce a digital plan which is included within the report.
- After the survey, we will provide a summary email of our findings. A formal bat scoping report will follow, which you submit to the local planning authority to support your planning application.
- If the site has no features suitable for bats, no further surveys are needed.

## Why do I need a bat scoping survey?

ALL bat species are protected by law. It is illegal to deliberately or recklessly KILL, INJURE, CAPTURE or DISTURB bats. It is also illegal to obstruct access, destroy or damage a bat roost, whether it is occupied or not!

## When can the surveys take place?

Any time of the year. Further surveys may be required if there is reasonable potential for bats to be roosting and these are seasonally restricted. To prevent delays, involve an ecologist at the earliest possible stage of development.

## If you find bats, can the development still go ahead?

**YES!**

If bats will be impacted, a Natural England European Protected Species Mitigation Licence and mitigation strategy will be required. TMA can work with you to design a mitigation strategy that works with the development and complete the licence applications.