

Site Inspection reference	SI-5129-01	Date of inspection	22.01.2021
----------------------------------	------------	---------------------------	------------

Inspected by Sam Kitching BSc (Hons), MCIEEM, Class Survey Licence CL18 (Bat Survey Level 2), Senior Ecologist at Brooks Ecological; and

Joshua Birchall BSc (Hons), GradCIEEM, Class Survey Licence WML CL17 (Bat Survey Level 1) Ecologist at Brooks Ecological

Task description Climbed endoscope inspection of all potential roost features within three mature ash trees on the southern boundary of the Mount Vernon Road Site.

Roped access techniques were employed to allow close inspection of all features which from the ground appear to offer a space suitable for use by roosting bats.

Report East Tree

The eastern tree includes a woodpecker hole at approximately 6m on the northern elevation, with a minor branch scar circa.15cm above this. The woodpecker hole is found to provide access to a small cavity within the trunk. However, inspection showed the resulting wound from the branch scar above has caused the cavity accessed by the woodpecker hole to be open to the top, the potential ingress of water prevents this feature being of any value to bats.

This tree also includes a significant branch scar on its northern elevation. This feature extends from approximately 2m – 4m up the trunk. A small rot hole at the top of the scar extends c.1m into a cavity within the trunk. This feature was found to be suitable for use by roosting bats, but no current or historic evidence of occupation was noted. The minor tear wound associated with the branch scar was found to offer minimal suitability for use by roosting bats.

Middle Tree

This tree includes a significant rotten branch extending from the crown on the northern elevation, cavities within this feature were found to include significant build ups of detritus resulting from the rotting wood.



Unit A, 1 Station Road, Guiseley, LEEDS LS20 8BX
Phone **01943 884451**

Email: pjb@brooks-ecological.co.uk
www.brooks-ecological.co.uk

Registered in England Number 5351418

This feature links to the cavity associated with a smaller rot hole below, this cavity was found to hold standing water and was deemed unsuitable for use by roosting bats.

West tree

A large branch scar is present on the western elevation of this tree. This includes a small rot hole at the base of the scar. This accesses a large cavity within the trunk, no evidence of bats was noted but some debris suggests it has been used in the past as a squirrel dray.

A small rot hole left in place of a fallen branch extends into a cavity c.30cm deep. This was found to be damp and offer limited value to roosting bats.

A further branch tear extending to the east of the crown included some torn wood and occluded bark around its margins, inspections found no features suitable for use by bats.

Summary

No evidence of current or historic roosting could be found in any of the PRFs identified on this tree. A likely absence of bats is concluded, though features in the eastern western trees offer good value to roosting bats.

Further actions

Based on the results of this inspection, no further bat survey is considered necessary on the trees. The proposed development offers minimal risk of impacting bats or their roosts.

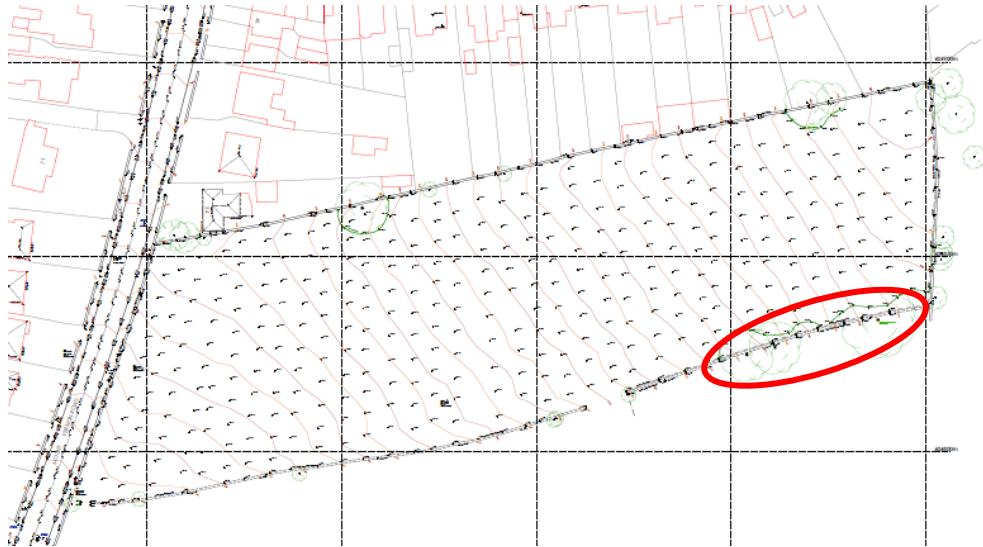
Under current proposals these trees will be retained, given the presence of features suitable for use by roosting bats effort should be made to minimise the exposure of these trees to light spill.

This can be achieved through the removing, or restricting lighting in the area to low level columns, or through fitting hoods or louvers to any columns in the area above 2m. Any lighting installed in the area should lack UV elements, conform to a warm white spectrum (ideally <2700Kelvin) to reduce blue light component and luminaires should feature peak wavelengths higher than 550nm.

Should proposals change, requiring removal of these trees further survey may be necessary.

Figure 1

Location of
trees subject to
inspection.

**Photograph 1**

Roped access
inspection of
features in
eastern tree



Photograph 3

Branch scar in
middle tree

