



Evidence Requirements for Bat Earned Recognition Class Licence Accreditation Levels and Licence Annexes

| Issue | Amendment Detail | Authors | Date |
|--------------|---|--------------------------------|----------------|
| V1.0 | Original document. | Natural England, CIEEM, BCT | July 2021 |
| V1.1 | Annex G added. | Natural England | July 2021 |
| V1.2 | Minor changes to wording. | Natural England | September 2021 |
| V1.3 | Amendments for Bat ER Beta, reflecting revised licence annexes. | Natural England, CIEEM, BCT | November 2022 |

Evidence requirements

This document is relevant to those technical competencies demonstrated via portfolio and/or structured interview during ER assessment and accreditation.

| Accreditation Level 1 (Annexes A and B) |
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| <p>Annex A</p> <p>What it covers:</p> <p>Common pipistrelle, Soprano pipistrelle, Brown long-eared bat (Group 1 species)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feeding roost, Night roost, Day roost, Transitional/occasional roost (used by individuals or small numbers of bats) <p>Evidence requirements:</p> <p>Examples provided in support of the survey competencies should include a range of species, including at least one example from each of the following four groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Pipistrellus</i>• <i>Plecotus</i>• <i>Myotis</i>• Any other UK bat species (not in <i>Pipistrellus</i>, <i>Plecotus</i>, <i>Myotis</i> genera) <p>Examples provided in support of mitigation competencies must include licensed bat mitigation examples (where applicant is the Named Ecologist or Accredited Agent), including at least one example from each of the following two groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Pipistrellus</i>• <i>Plecotus</i> |
| <p>Annex B (optional at AL1, but meeting evidence requirements of this annex is compulsory for AL2 and AL3)</p> <p>What it covers:</p> <p>Brandt's bat, Daubenton's bat, Natterer's bat, Whiskered bat, Leisler's bat, Noctule, Serotine, Nathusius' pipistrelle (Group 2 species)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feeding roost, Night roost, Day roost, Transitional/occasional roost (used by individuals or small numbers of bats) <p>Evidence requirements:</p> <p>Examples provided in support of mitigation competencies must include licensed bat mitigation examples (where applicant is the Named Ecologist or Accredited Agent), including at least one example from the following group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Myotis</i> <p>Also, must include a licensed bat mitigation (where the applicant is the Named Ecologist or Accredited Agent) or non-licensed mitigation example from the following group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Nyctalus</i> or Serotine bat <p>If no mitigation examples are available for <i>Nyctalus</i> or Serotine bat then other work which has resulted in substantial experience of <i>Nyctalus</i> or Serotine bat roosting ecology will be considered, including:</p> |

- Ecological surveys, assessment, and mitigation plans that you've produced in support of planning applications
- Planning or participating in monitoring or research projects
- Designing robust schemes that avoid or lessen impacts
- Advising on large scale development projects
- Training and development, including planning and delivering recognised training courses
- Conservation work, including being responsible for protected sites

Accreditation Level 2 (Annexes C and H1)

Annex C

What it covers:

Common pipistrelle, Soprano pipistrelle, Brown long-eared bat (**Group 1 species**)

- Satellite roost, Maternity roost, Hibernation roost and Mating site¹ (except any roost of high conservation significance)

Barbastelle, Bechstein's, Grey long-eared, Alcahoie (**Group 3 species**, except *Rhinolophus*)

- Feeding roost, Night roost, Day roost, Transitional/occasional roost

Evidence requirements:

Please note that the evidence requirements set out in this section encompass the requirements for Annexes A and B.

Examples provided in support of **survey** competencies should include a range of species, including at least one example from **each** of the following four groups:

- *Pipistrellus*
- *Plecotus*
- *Myotis*
- Any other UK bat species (not in *Pipistrellus*, *Plecotus*, *Myotis* genera)

Examples provided in support of **mitigation** competencies must include licensed bat mitigation examples (where applicant is the Named Ecologist or Accredited Agent), including at least one example from **each** of the following three groups:

- *Pipistrellus*
- *Plecotus*
- *Myotis*

Also, must include a licensed bat mitigation (where the applicant is the Named Ecologist or Accredited Agent) **or** non-licensed mitigation example from the following group:

- *Nyctalus* or Serotine bat

If no mitigation examples are available for *Nyctalus* or Serotine bat then other work which has resulted in substantial experience of *Nyctalus* or Serotine bat roosting ecology will be considered, including:

- Ecological surveys, assessment, and mitigation plans that you've produced in support of planning applications
- Planning or participating in monitoring or research projects
- Designing robust schemes that avoid or lessen impacts

¹ Does not include any type of swarming site, which fall into Accreditation Level 3.

- Advising on large scale development projects
- Training and development, including planning and delivering recognised training courses
- Conservation work, including being responsible for protected sites

Also, must include licensed bat mitigation examples of maternity roosts, including at least one example from **two** of the following three groups:

- *Pipistrellus*
- *Plecotus*
- Any other UK bat species (not in *Pipistrellus*, *Plecotus*, *Rhinolophus* genera)

Also, must include licensed or non-licensed bat mitigation examples of hibernation roosts, including at least one example from **two** of the following three groups:

- *Pipistrellus*
- *Plecotus*
- Any other UK bat species (not in *Pipistrellus*, *Plecotus*, *Rhinolophus* genera)

Annex H1 (optional):

What it covers:

Lesser horseshoe bat, Greater horseshoe bat

- Feeding roost, Night roost, Day roost, Transitional/occasional roost

Evidence requirements:

Examples provided in support of **mitigation** competencies must include at least one licensed bat mitigation example (where applicant is the Named Ecologist or Accredited Agent) from the relevant species group (*Rhinolophus*).

Accreditation Level 3 (Annexes D, H2 and H3)

Annex D

What it covers:

Brandt's bat, Daubenton's bat, Natterer's bat, Whiskered bat, Leisler's bat, Noctule, Serotine, Nathusius' pipistrelle (**Group 2 species**)

- Satellite roost, Maternity roost, Hibernation roost, Mating site

Barbastelle, Bechstein's, Grey long-eared, Alcahoie (**Group 3 species**, except *Rhinolophus*)

- Satellite roost, Maternity roost, Hibernation roost, Mating site

All bat species

- Swarming site

Lesser horseshoe bat, Greater horseshoe bat

- Mating site

Evidence requirements:

Please note that the evidence requirements set out in this section encompass the requirements for Annexes A, B and C.

Examples provided in support of **survey** competencies should include a range of species, including at least one example from **each** of the following four groups:

- *Pipistrellus*
- *Plecotus*
- *Myotis*
- Any other UK bat species (not in *Pipistrellus*, *Plecotus*, *Myotis* genera)

Examples provided in support of **mitigation** competencies must include licensed bat mitigation examples (where applicant is the Named Ecologist or Accredited Agent) of **maternity roosts**, including at least one example from **each** of the following four groups:

- *Pipistrellus*
- *Plecotus*
- *Myotis*
- *Nyctalus* or Serotine bat

For *Nyctalus* or Serotine bat, non-licensed mitigation examples for maternity roosts will also be accepted. If no licensed or non-licensed examples demonstrating mitigation competencies are available for *Nyctalus* or Serotine bat, other work which has resulted in substantial experience of *Nyctalus* or Serotine bat maternity roosting ecology will be considered, including:

- Ecological surveys, assessment, and mitigation plans that you've produced in support of planning applications
- Planning or participating in monitoring or research projects
- Designing robust schemes that avoid or lessen impacts
- Advising on large scale development projects
- Training and development, including planning and delivering recognised training courses
- Conservation work, including being responsible for protected sites

Also, must include licensed or non-licensed bat mitigation examples of **hibernation roosts**, including at least one example from **each** of the following four groups:

- *Pipistrellus*
- *Plecotus*
- *Myotis*
- Any other UK bat species (not in *Pipistrellus*, *Plecotus*, *Myotis*, *Rhinolophus* genera)

If no examples demonstrating **mitigation** competencies are available for 'Any other UK bat species (not in *Pipistrellus*, *Plecotus*, *Myotis*, *Rhinolophus* genera)' hibernation roosts, other work which has resulted in substantial experience of a relevant species' hibernation roosting ecology will be considered, including:

- Ecological surveys, assessment, and mitigation plans that you've produced in support of planning applications
- Planning or participating in monitoring or research projects
- Designing robust schemes that avoid or lessen impacts
- Advising on large scale development projects
- Training and development, including planning and delivering recognised training courses
- Conservation work, including being responsible for protected sites

Other species and roost types:

Specific evidence is not required for some of the species and roost types covered by Annex D – satellite, maternity, and hibernation roosts of Group 3 species (except *Rhinolophus*), swarming sites for all bat species and mating sites for Lesser horseshoe and Greater horseshoe bat. All Site Registration

applications falling within Accreditation Level 3 are subject to assessment, including assessment of competence and experience, where appropriate. Any Site Registration application for mating and swarming sites with Lesser horseshoe and/or Greater horseshoe bats present must be made by an ER Consultant who is accredited to Annex H3.

Annex H2 (optional)

What it covers:

Lesser horseshoe bat, Greater horseshoe bat

- Feeding roost, Night roost, Day roost, Transitional/occasional roost (where the impacts fall into AL3)

Evidence requirements:

Annex H2 (for AL3) covers the same species and roost types as Annex H1 (for AL2). The evidence requirements are the same for Annex H1 and Annex H2.

Examples provided in support of **mitigation** competencies must include at least one licensed bat mitigation example (where applicant is the Named Ecologist or Accredited Agent) from the relevant species group (*Rhinolophus*).

Annex H3 (optional)

What it covers:

Lesser horseshoe bat, Greater horseshoe bat

- Satellite roost, Maternity roost, Hibernation roost

Evidence requirements:

Examples provided in support of **mitigation** competencies must include at least one licensed mitigation example (where applicant is the Named Ecologist or Accredited Agent) of **maternity roost/s** and at least one licensed or non-licensed mitigation example of **hibernation roost/s** from the relevant species group (*Rhinolophus*).

If no examples demonstrating **mitigation** competencies are available for *Rhinolophus* hibernation roosts, other work which has resulted in substantial experience of *Rhinolophus* hibernation roosting ecology will be considered, including:

- Ecological surveys, assessment, and mitigation plans that you've produced in support of planning applications
- Planning or participating in monitoring or research projects
- Designing robust schemes that avoid or lessen impacts
- Advising on large scale development projects
- Training and development, including planning and delivering recognised training courses
- Conservation work, including being responsible for protected sites