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Dusk emergence survey at:
Industrial Complex,
Brown Street,
Littleborough,
OL15 8BW

OS grid reference:

SD 9353 1642

Commissioned-by:

Fred Veevers

Survey Date: 5/6/19

Previous survey (day-time): 23/10/18

Report Date: 10/6/19

Previous report: 30/10/18

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Summary.

(This summary should be read in conjunction with the conclusions and recommendations.)

This complex of old and new industrial buildings were assessed for bat roosting potential in late **October 2018**.

There was no access to the loft of the main, older building and most of the newer buildings had very limited roosting potential. Externally most of the potential roosting places were associated with the older building. The roosting potential was assessed as being moderate. To accord with good practice, two bat activity surveys (dusk emergence or dawn-return-to-roost) were recommended. This is the report of the first of those surveys.

The south-eastern part of the site in particular was very brightly lit with security lighting. There was very little roosting potential in this area. There was artificial lighting to a lesser extent in the south-west and north-east of the site.

No bats emerged but there was regular commuting, with a degree of incidental feeding, by the common pipistrelle along the tree-line just beyond the western boundary, running north to south alongside the site.

The second activity survey should be undertaken as recommended.

Introduction.

I was engaged to undertake a dusk emergence survey of this building further to my day-time survey on **23/10/19**.

At that survey no evidence of roosting was found in the accessible areas inside the buildings, but some potential entry places associated with fascias, roof-slates and gaps both in walls and around window-frames were noted.

Having been involved with bat survey work for 30 years and consultancy work for 20years, it is always my objective to carry-out my work in a manner consistent with accepted Good Practice Guidelines and consistent with the code of practice of the CIEEM. I hold Natural England Class Licences CL21, 18 and 16. Amongst other things these cover me to apply for Low Impact Licences for clients and undertake bat survey work. I have a supplementary licence to photograph bats in roosts and a CL29 Barn Owl Class Licence. My credentials are expanded-upon in Appendix 1.

This report should be read in conjunction with the report of the October survey.

Survey.

I returned on **5/6/19** to carry out the dusk emergence survey. I had 4 assistants with me.

We took up fixed positions to watch for bats leaving the building. See Fig 1 below. We all had the use of heterodyne “bat detectors” to help alert us to the presence of bats and to help us distinguish the species present, and synchronised watches to help us piece together the flight paths followed by bats.

Watches are checked as quickly as possible after sighting a bat and times are recorded to the second.

The usual aim of the survey is to position surveyors so that even if areas of roof cannot be seen directly, the building is covered well enough that, by a process of elimination, it can be worked-out whether or not bats emerged or arrived from off-site.

In addition I placed Anabat SD1, Anabat Express and Anabat Swift detectors near the surveyors. See Fig 1 below. These record bat calls for analysis on computer later. They are extra tools for helping to confirm the species present.



Fig. 1.
Key: Approximate locations of surveyors shown by red stars, approximate locations of recording devices shown by yellow crosses.

Findings.

The main results are shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1. Summary of surveys and significant findings

Date	Survey type	Sunset / sunrise time	Time of survey	Conditions °C/weather	Comments
5/6/19	dusk	21.25	21.05 - 22.45	11°C at start, cloudy, still	No bats emerged. First bat recorded at 21.56 flying

				10.2°C at 22.00 9.6°C at end	along tree-line immediately to the west of the site. (See Appendix 1). Bats then regularly recorded commuting along this tree-line. Some incidental feeding activity recorded on-site in the shelter of the tree-line. Otherwise only 3 bats were recorded in north-east of site. All bats were common pipistrelles. Light pollution to all but north-western quarter of complex. Especially bright in south-east of compound.

Survey type key: dusk = dusk emergence survey,

Conclusions/Discussion

No bats emerged on this occasion and most bats seen on-site were flying along the tree-line beyond the western boundary, with a little incidental feeding activity taking place on site.

There were enough features at risk of use by roosting bats, in sufficient darkness, and enough activity recorded, that the second activity survey should be undertaken as previously recommended.

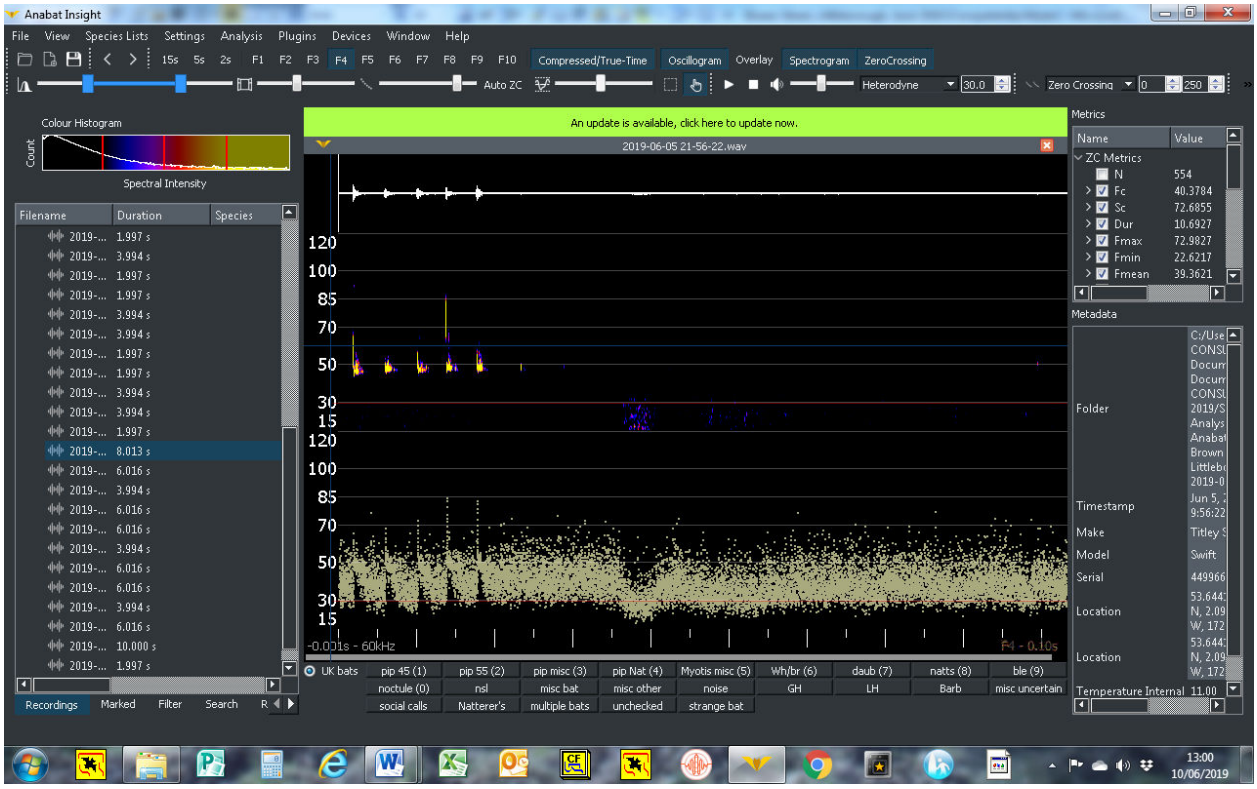
Recommendations.

These recommendations should be read in conjunction with the conclusions above.

Have a dawn return-to-roost survey undertaken at least a month after the first.

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Appendix 1 - Example sonogram recorded at dusk survey



Recording of common pipistrelle at 21.56