

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: David Cross
From: Matt Davies (Ecologist)
Ext: 5278
Memo number: 2
Date of previous memo: 08/03/2023
Date: 08/03/2023

SUBJECT: P/23/0061 | Change of use of the first and second floors from offices and storage to 5 self-contained flats and storage, together with alterations to the roof and other associated external alterations | 126 High Street Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8BT

Document submitted in support of the above application:

1. 126 and 126a High Street Merthyr Tydfil. Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA). Revision 1.0. Date 27 March 2023. Acer Ecology.

COMMENTS:

The results show the building to have low suitability for roosting bats. Therefore, in line with current guidelines¹, a single bat activity survey is required.

A bat activity survey supplemented by the use of Night Vision Aids (NVAs) will be undertaken².

This will be a dusk emergence survey rather than a dawn re-entry survey. Recent research has suggested that many bats return to roosts earlier than a dawn survey would pick up.

x3 surveyors have been proposed and positioned presumably to the cover those potential roost features (PRFs) identified during the PRA (to the west, south or east of the building). The images within the report show that the rooflines of the building are relatively high. Consequently, there may be other PRFs present that cannot be observed from ground level. A fourth surveyor should therefore be positioned within the courtyard (as shown in image overleaf) to cover bats emerging from an unseen position and flying north.

The survey work is required prior to determination of the application.

¹ Collins, J (ed.) (2016) Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists. Good Practice Guidelines (3rd edn). The Bat Conservation Trust, London.

² <https://www.bats.org.uk/news/2022/05/updated-guidance-for-use-of-night-vision-aids-for-bat-surveys#:~:text=The%20Interim%20Guidance%20Note%20specifies%20that%20all%20professional,aid%20can%20be%20used%20as%20a%20complementary%20technique.>



126 - 126a High Street
Merthyr Tydfil

Proposed Surveyor
Positions

Key

● Proposed Surveyor
Positions