

CLIENT: WEST NORTH WEST HOMES **LOCATION:** LEEDS, WEST YORKSHIRE

PROJECT VALUE: £60,000

Stonecliffe and Woodbridge Estates are two areas of social housing located in the Farnley and Headingly areas of Leeds in West Yorkshire. The properties in both estates are of similar design; with flat roofs and upper storey covered in hanging tiles.

Total Ecology was commissioned in 2011 to carry out nocturnal surveys on the council owned houses across both estates. The surveys were required before work to the houses was carried out, which included reroofing, new fascias and removal of hanging tiles to be replaced with insulate render. The surveys resulted in the discovery of 35 occasionally used roosts and 6 maternity roosts across the



Stonecliffe Estate mostly of common pipistrelle bats but also one small maternity roost of soprano pipistrelle bats. At Woodbridge 29 occasionally used roosts were discovered and one maternity roost, with common pipistrelle the only bat recorded roosting there. The bats on these estates, including the large common pipistrelle maternity roost at Stonecliffe, were found to move around, hence the high number of roost sites.

A European Protected Species Licence was obtained from Natural England for both estates because removal of the hanging tiles would result in the loss of the roosts. The works were then fully supervised by licenced bat ecologists across 2012 and early 2013 to ensure no bats were harmed during the work and any bats found were moved into bat boxes or taken into temporary care until spring if the bats were hibernating. Bat tubes were installed in the walls of all roost properties and boxes were also installed on trees prior to work commencing, including the installation of a large hibernation box.

Two years of monitoring surveys forms part of the Licence and the first set of surveys were carried out during the 2013 survey season. These monitoring surveys focused on the bat tubes that now form part of the fabric of the rendered properties.



OUR CONTRIBUTION

- Bat Surveys
- European Protected Species Licence
- Ecological Clerk of Works
- Two years of Bat Roost Monitoring





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