

Application for Licence Exclusion of Bats for Development Purposes



Conservation (Natural Habitats etc) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as ammended)

The information provided on this form may be made available to other Departments/Agencies for the purposes of detecting crime.

- Please complete this application form using **dark ink** and **BLOCK CAPITALS**.
- Please ensure that you answer questions fully in order to avoid delays.
- Northern Ireland Environment Agency will aim to determine whether a licence should be issued within 15 working days of receipt of a completed application.
- If you need to include further information, please attach and clearly mark any additional pages.
- If you experience any problems filling in this form, please contact the Wildlife Licensing Unit, Klondyke Building, Gasworks Business Park, Cromac Avenue, Lower Ormeau Road BY7 2JA or by telephone on 02890569602.

I wish to apply for a licence under regulation 39(2) of the Conservation (Natural Habitats etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended).

Part A.

The Applicant (the developer or landowner):

Personal details

These questions relate to the person who will be the named licensee. As the licensee you will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the licence and its conditions

1.(a) Name of Applicant

Title	Forename(s)
Surname	

(b) Address

Company Name
Business Title
Address
Post Code
Telephone
Fax
Mobile
Email

(c) Address where works are to be carried out if different from (b) above

Company Name
Business Title
Address
Post Code
Grid Reference

The Ecologist:

Personal details experience

These questions relate to the person acting on behalf of the Developer/Land owner and who will support the licensee in delivering specific elements of any licence granted in respect of the capture or disturbance of bats, including the overseeing of exclusion works and mitigation.

1.(a) Name

Title	Forename(s)
Surname	

(b) Address

Company Name
Business Title
Address
Post Code
Telephone
Fax
Mobile
Email

Part B. The Application

1. Locality of proposed licensed activity

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2. Species of Bat and approximate numbers that will be affected by proposed works

Species of Bat	Number affected

3. Activity to be licensed (tick appropriate box)

- Damage or destroy a bat breeding or resting place
- Deliberately disturb bats

4. Purpose of licence application (tick one box only)

- (a) Preserving Public Health and Safety
(applications for this purpose must be accompanied by documentary evidence of the risk from a chartered structural engineer, tree surgeon, police, environmental health etc)
- (b) imperative reasons of overriding public interest.
(including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment)
- (c) preventing spread of disease
- (d) preventing serious damage to livestock, foodstuffs for livestock, crops, vegetables, fruit, growing timber or any other form of property, or to fisheries

Proposed activities and methods

(a) Please complete all relevant columns in the table below to indicate the methods you propose to use, the activity involved and the time period in which you propose to use each method.

Method/Activity	Description/method e.g. removal by hand /capture by static net	Activity Date
Capture bats		
Kill (exceptional circumstances only)		
Disturbance of bats		

Proposed activities and methods continued

Method/Activity	Description/method e.g. removal by hand /capture by static net	Activity Date
Disturbance of bats		
Damage or destroy roost		

(b) Briefly state how you will manage an equivalent bat population at or near the licenced site.

Part C. The Declaration

Have you, or any persons named in this form, been convicted of any wildlife or animal welfare related offences? Please tick the relative box

Yes No

If YES, please give details, including dates

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I understand that the deliberate killing, injuring, capturing or disturbing of bats, or damage or destruction of their roots is illegal without a licence and that it is a legal requirement to comply with the conditions of any licence I may be granted following this application. I understand that Northern Ireland Environment Agency may visit to check compliance with a licence.

I authorise employees or representatives of Northern Ireland Environment Agency to enter the site which subject to this application for the purpose of monitoring and inspecting the permitted works where a prior appointment has been agreed.

Signature of the Applicant (developer or landowner)

	Date
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Name in BLOCK LETTERS

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Signature of Ecologist

	Date
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Name in BLOCK LETTERS

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Using and sharing your information -

The data controller is Northern Ireland Environment Agency, Gasworks Business Park, Lower Ormeau Road, Belfast BT7 2JA. Your information will be stored and processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. This Act gives you, as an individual, the right to know what data we hold on you, how we use it, with whom we share it and for it to be accurate. It will be used for processing your application.

Northern Ireland Environment Agency or its appointed agents may use the name, address and other details on your application form to contact you in connection with occasional customer research aimed at improving the services that Northern Ireland Environment Agency provides to you. We will respect personal privacy, whilst complying with access to information requests to the extent necessary to enable Northern Ireland Environment Agency to comply with its statutory obligations under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Type of Licence
Valid from
Signed
Date approved
Until
Extra conditions

Application for a Licence Bats- Method Statement

The method statement is used to determine the impact of the application on the favourable conservation status of the species concerned (regulation 39(3)(b)).

Document 1 – Background and supporting information

The format below must be used by a consultant ecologist or other suitably experienced person.

A. Executive Summary

B. Introduction

- B.1.** Background to activity/development, include a brief summary of why the activity is necessary.
- B.2.** Full details of proposed works on site that are to be covered by the licence e.g. barn /loft conversion to new dwelling, demolition of buildings, re-pointing of bridged and tunnels, lime kilns etc. Include current status of planning permission (if applicable).

C. Survey and site assessment

- C.1.** Pre-existing information on the bat species at the survey site. Provide records from local environmental records centres, local bat groups, previous survey work by the applicant or others.
- C.2.** Status of species at the local, county and regional levels.
- C.3.** Objectives of survey e.g. to determine presence/absence of bats, bat usage of site (e.g. Maternity, hibernation, night roosts; foraging, commuting/foraging behaviour). Include annotated photographs if helpful.
- C.4.** Scaled plan/map of survey area of appropriate scale and orientation with integral or separate location map at 1:50000 or 1:25000 scale. Aerial photographs are also useful.
- C.5.** Site/habitat description (with relevance to bats), Include annotated photographs if helpful.
- C.6.** Field survey(s) include survey method (emergence counts, dawn surveys, site inspection), timings (day/evening), weather conditions (wind, rain, temperature – tabulated for multiple survey visits), personnel involved (provide individual licence numbers, if held), and equipment used (type of bat detectors and logging equipment).
- C.7.** Survey results summarise findings in table form (if appropriate); provide clear, annotated and cross reference maps/plans/photographs to show roost locations, flight lines, access points, dimensions of existing roosts etc.)

- C.8.** Interpretation evaluation of survey results. Provide count/estimate of bat numbers, status of site (e.g. hibernation, maternity or feeding roost, swarming site etc, roost significance, constraints on survey (e.g. time of year, cold weather, access problems – justify as necessary).

D. Impact assessment in absence of mitigation

- D.1.** Short term impacts: disturbance e.g. noise, vibration, dust, lighting, access obstruction due to scaffolding and plastic sheeting.
- D.2.** Long term impacts: roost modification e.g. new entrances (including human access e.g. for servicing/maintenance), change in size of roost space, changes in air flow etc., temperature and humidity. Note that impacts can be positive or negative as this is in absence of mitigation.
- D.3.** Long term impacts: roost loss. Impact on different species populations to be taken into account at local, regional and national level.
- D.4.** Long term impacts: Fragmentation and isolation. E.g. loss of linear feature such as hedges, tree lines, increased lighting, severance of flight lines by roads/rail lines.
- D.5.** Post development interference impacts. E.g. extra street lighting, use of loft space as storage.
- D.6.** Predicted scale of impact on species status at the site, local county and regional levels.

E. Land ownership – Mitigation site(s) area(s) where works will be done to offset development impacts including development plot if applicable.

- E.1.** Mitigation site ownership if the mitigation site is not owned by the applicant, you must provide written consent of the relevant land owner(s). You must also provide details of how any measures to secure the population are to be maintained in the long term (e.g. a legal agreement).

Document 2 – Delivery Information

The format below must be used and completed by a consultant ecologist or other suitably experienced person. The document will be attached to the licence.

A. Mitigation and Compensation

A.1. Summary of mitigation strategy Overview of how the impacts will be addressed in order to ensure no detriment to the maintenance of the population at a favourable conservation status. To include a scaled map or plan that can be compared with proposals on the survey results plan.

B. Works to be undertaken by the ecologist or suitably experienced person.

B.1. Capture and exclusion (if applicable). Timings, effort, methods to be employed, care of bats, release sites etc. Include diagrams and photographs to show capture/exclusion apparatus. Include map to show location of capture and exclusion activities.

C. Works to be undertaken by the developer/landowner.

C.1. Bat roosts

C.1.1 In situ retention of roost(s) – Providing details of all re-roofing works for example, replacement of felt with a breathable membrane, use of insect guards, timber treatment; also include additions or changes in insulation and any impact on temperature/humidity. Explain how roost entrances will be retained and if purpose built entrances are required a scaled drawing of their design is required. Any enhancements to roosts such as crevice provision should also be detailed. (include photographs if helpful).

C.1.2 Modification of existing roost(s) – Dimension details, scale drawings of the roost and access points, orientation, state what services will be incorporated in the roost that might require regular servicing, for example, lift winding gear, electrical or plumbing services, gas boilers, [partitioning of voids where a large property is being converted to a number of units etc.

C.1.3 New roost creation (including bat houses, cotes and bat boxes) – dimension details including access points, location details, materials used e.g. timber, sarfing, felt etc... aspect, justify variation from original roost. Please submit diagrams and refer to bat box name and reference.

C.1.4 Scaled maps/plans to show proposals/mitigation outlined above in relation to existing and proposed habitat features.

D. Post development site safeguard

D.1. Habitat/site management and maintenance – to include details of what will be done in terms of habitat management and site maintenance required to ensure long term security of affected population.

E. Timetable of works

Complete Table A for all works which impact on bats including mitigation and compensation measures. Please ensure you include start and end dates for all activities. Use the notes column to provide any additional information or clarification, for example, if several activities are occurring within the same timeframe, explain the order in which they will take place.

A. Development activities and timing

Activity	Timing	Notes
Example Start and complete 'barn a' roof repairs	Mid September to end October 2009	Remove tiles and rotten timbers by hand only; supervised by licensed ecologist
Example Start and complete dedicated bat loft in 'barn a'	November 2009 to January 2010	Partition off loft, complete wiring, board over insulation: install bat roost features
Example Start and complete 'barn a' internal refurbishment	Early February to end April 2010	Possible noise disturbance to bat loft. No access by workers to bat loft

Reasoned Statement in Support of an application for a European Protected Species Licence

This form should be completed by the applicant or persons authorized to do so on their behalf.

The information provided on this form will be used by NIEA to determine whether the proposed activity affecting the European Protected Species meets the requirements of regulation 39 (2)(e) and 3(a). These are known as the purpose and no satisfactory alternatives tests

Part A. Site Details

Site Name
Site Address

Summary of Proposal

Scale/nature of proposed activity – please select the option below that best describes the nature/scale of your proposal. This helps us understand the nature of your proposal quickly and speeds assessment.

- Small and medium scale proposals**
Proposal is considered to be of local importance. Examples might be loft conversions, the demolition of unsafe structures, barn conversions, small scale housing.
- Larger scale proposals**
Proposal is considered to be of regional or national importance. Examples might be large scale industrial developments, large housing developments, new schools, hospitals, mineral extraction, power production plants.
- Linear works**
Highways, railways, pipelines and other linear schemes.
- Temporary impact proposals**
Examples might be archaeological site investigations (trenches), ground investigations surveys (bore holes, trial pits etc.), temporary access roads, where activity is of a short duration.

Brief Description of Proposal e.g. Construction of a new school, barn conversion to residential accommodation, barn conversion to holiday accommodation, demolition of unsafe structure, demolition of building(s) in advance of development etc.

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Part B. Consent status

In this section we ask you to indicate whether any consent is required for your proposed project and the subject of this licence application. Please tick one of the following options and then go to the next appropriate section of the form.

- B1. Planning related consent required**
(e.g. planning permission, listed building consent)
Go to part C
- B2. Other types of consent required**
(e.g. Planning permission, listed building consent)
List below then go to part C

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- B.3. Other**
Please give a brief description below
List below then go to part D

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Part C. Details of consents e.g. planning or other consents

C.1 Have you obtained the necessary consent(s), as detailed in part B to allow the proposed activity to be commenced?

Yes No

If yes please provide details of necessary consents.

If No give details of outstanding consents to be obtained and the likely timescale for their determination/issue. Explain why you are applying in advance of the granting of consent that would allow the development to commence. See 'important note' above

C.2 Please tick all forms of consents that have been granted relevant to the proposed activity and this licence application as indicated in C1

- Full Planning permission
- Mineral consent
- Outline planning permission
- Utilities consent
- Listed building consent
- Conservation area consent
- Tree Preservation Order
- Other consent type (specify below)

C.3 Give the consent reference number(s) and provide copies of the consents (or extracts) relevant to the proposed activity and this licence application, if applicable.

For all consents that have been granted have all conditions or Reserved Matters relating to wildlife species and habitat issues (which are intended to be and are capable of being discharged before development begins) been discharged?

Yes No

If no please give details of those conditions as identified above that remain to be discharged or explain why the condition has not been discharged.

C.4 Is the site subject to any such commitment that affects other European protected species or other protected species, e.g. bird, badgers etc.

Yes No

If yes please explain below whether this has been met and if not when will it be completed?

D.2.3 Have measures been put in place to exclude or deter unauthorized entry; if so give details? (For example, fencing, site security, removal of items of value, etc)

Statement
Evidence

D.2.5 If the exclusion measures have not been effective, state why and explain why further measures cannot reasonably be undertaken. Please include any representations from the police or fire service to support your statement.

Statement
Evidence

D.2.4 If measures have been put in place, give details of the timescales and whether it has been in response to escalating problems?

Statement
Evidence

D.2.6 If there have been instances of vandalism, arson or other anti social behaviour, give details. Please include any representations from the police or fire service to support your statement

Statement
Evidence

D.2.7 What has been the cost in monetary terms?

This helps us to gauge the seriousness of the issue and whether alternatives have been adequately explored. This may include your costs but also those of police or fire service responding to incidents at the site.

Statement
Evidence

D.2.8 Is the structure or land subject to this application in public or private ownership?

Statement
Evidence

D.2.9 If applicable, are there plans to develop the land following demolition of the structure?

Statement
Evidence

D.2.10 Insert below any further information that you wish us to consider in relation to this section.

Statement
Evidence

D.3 'Imperative reasons of overriding public interest, Including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment'. Provide brief statements to demonstrate how in your view the proposed activity meets the purpose and detail the evidence that supports the statements. Such weight needs to be given to the proposed activity as to outweigh the nature conservation interest.

D.3.1 What need is the proposed activity designed to meet?

Statement
Evidence

D.3.2 How was the need identified? For example, is there a legislative requirement for the activity at a European, national or regional level?

Statement
Evidence

D.3.3 Through what process of scrutiny has the proposal been subject, if any? (for example, public inquiry, public meetings, consultations or similar?) Was the presence of European Protected Species considered at the planning stage? Your evidence may include copies of minutes.

Statement
Evidence

D.3.4 How does the proposed activity meet the identified need?

Statement
Evidence

D.3.5 What assurances can be given to NIEA that the activity will proceed as proposed in the timetable of works? What measures are in place to ensure that it will proceed? For example have relevant contracts been let or has all the relevant funding been secured and in place?

Statement

Evidence

D.3.7 Does the proposed activity deliver or contribute to social needs at a local, regional and/or national level? For example, housing (including affordable housing), Specialist social care, hospitals, schools and other educational establishments etc.

Statement

Evidence

D.3.6 Who will benefit from the completed proposed activity and how? Is it the public and/or private sectors? One person, one family, one business, the community? Please give details.

Statement

Evidence

D.3.8 Does the proposed activity deliver or contribute to economic needs at a local, regional and/or national level? For example, employment, regeneration, mineral extraction etc.

Statement

Evidence

D.3.9 Are there any beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment as a result of the proposed activity? If so what are they? Does the proposed activity contribute to sustainable development and take into account other environmental concerns, such as 'green' energy or transport, if any?

Statement
Evidence

D.3.10 Are there any beneficial consequence for wildlife and protected species as a result of the proposed activity? If so what are they? Will the proposal improve species/habitat poor sites to sites with integral and/or significant wildlife habitats and green space?

Statement
Evidence

D.3.11 Insert below any further information that you wish us to consider in relation to this section.

Statement
Evidence

D.4 Consideration of Regulation 39(3)(a): the 'no satisfactory alternative' test. Regulation 39(3)(a) "that there is no satisfactory alternative". Provide brief statements and evidence to demonstrate how in your view there is no satisfactory alternative to the proposed activity. For an alternative to be "satisfactory" it has to be an alternative means of meeting the need whilst causing less damage to the European protected species. We encourage the use of Environmental Statements, photographs and location plans, appropriately referenced, as evidence to support your statement.

D.4.1 In respect of the answers given at D3, give details of the consideration of any alternatives to the proposed activity including the use of alternative sites at a local level (provide details). Also consider the alternative of doing nothing. What would be the consequence(s) of doing nothing?

Statement
Evidence

D.4.2 Why was the preferred option chosen?
What criteria was used in the selection process?
What were the limiting factors?

Statement
Evidence

D.4.3 Could the proposed activity be achieved in a way (such as design, layout, positioning etc) that would mean no, or reduced, implications to European protected species? Why is this not possible? If it is, why was it rejected?

Statement
Evidence

D.4.4 Why does the proposed activity need to be undertaken in the timescale you propose? Why is it not satisfactory to delay the implementation of the proposal?

Statement
Evidence

D.4.5 Insert below any further information that you wish to be considered in support of this section.

Statement
Evidence

Part E. Declaration

This declaration must be signed by the person completing the form. This may be the applicant or another qualified person authorized by the applicant. Signing confirms that you accept responsibility for the accuracy of the information you have provided.

I declare that the particulars given are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I am the developer/landowner

I am an agent authorized by the applicant to complete this statement

Signature

	Date
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Name in BLOCK LETTERS

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Telephone
Email

Northern Ireland Environment Agency
Klondyke Building
Cromac Avenue
Gasworks Business Park
Belfast BT7 2JA
T. 0845 302 0008

www.ni-environment.gov.uk

Our aim is to protect, conserve and promote the natural environment and built heritage for the benefit of present and future generations.

