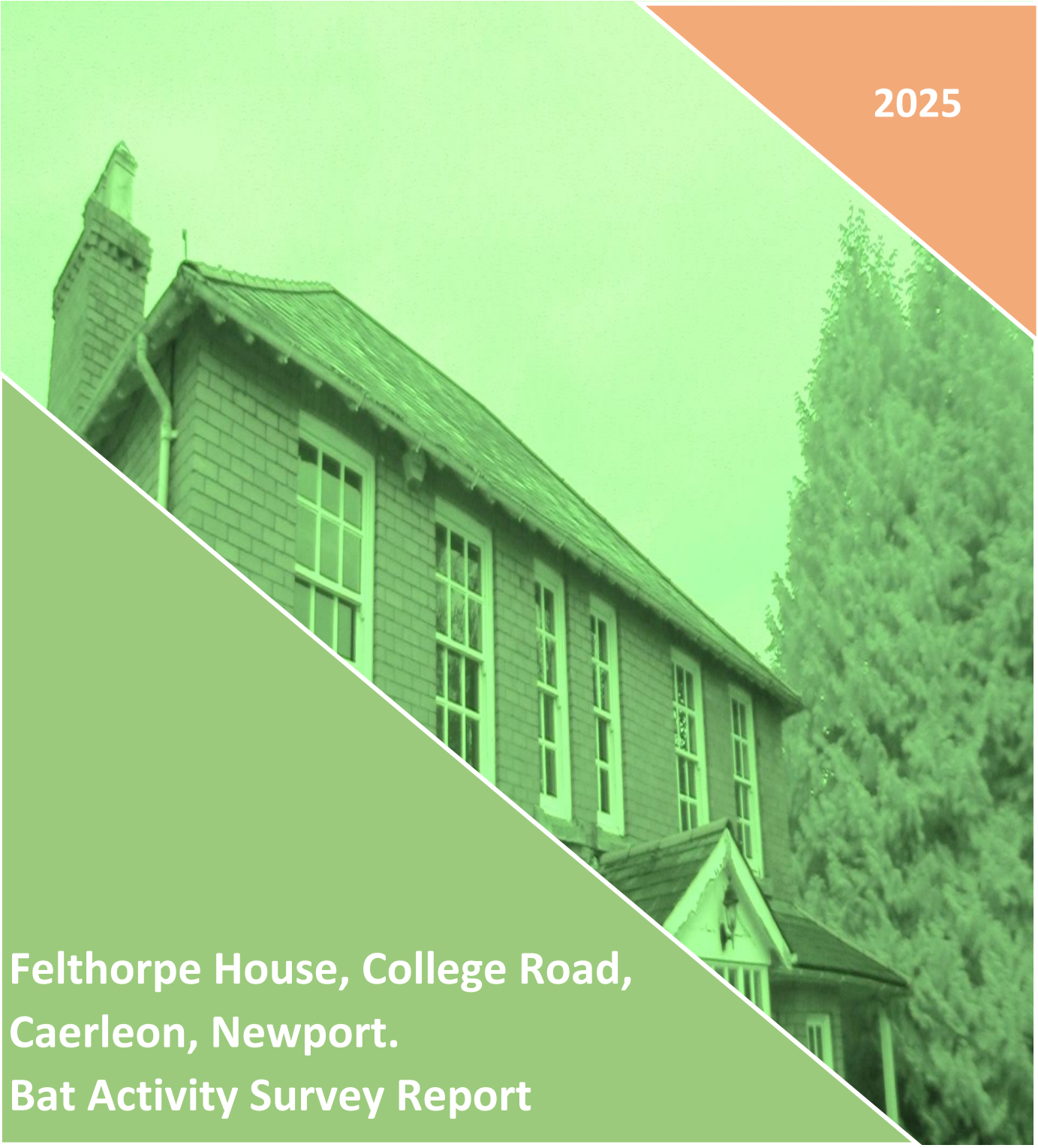
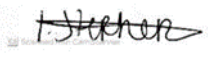


The background of the cover is a photograph of Felthorpe House, a large, multi-story building with a prominent chimney and several windows. The image is overlaid with a green tint and a diagonal white line that separates the top right corner, which is orange and contains the year '2025', from the rest of the cover.

2025

**Felthorpe House, College Road,
Caerleon, Newport.
Bat Activity Survey Report**



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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 SCOPE OF REPORT

- 1.1.1 EcoVigour Ltd was instructed by the client to undertake dusk activity surveys on Felthorpe House, College Road, Caerleon, Newport, Grid Ref: ST 33648 91134, ahead of planned works to develop the site.
- 1.1.2 EDP Ltd undertook a preliminary roost assessment (PRA) on the site in 2023, and following the recommendations made in the report, EcoVigour Ltd undertook three dusk activity surveys on the site in 2025, for more information please refer to the original PRA report completed by EDP Ecology.

1.2 SITE DESCRIPTION

- 1.2.1 The survey area consists of Felthorpe House, College Road, Caerleon, Newport, Grid Ref: ST 33648 91134.

Figure 1 - Site location.



- 1.2.2 The aim of the bat activity surveys undertaken by EcoVigour in July and August 2025 was to ascertain the following:
- Presence/absence of new bat roosts within the site including hibernation potential;
 - Confirmation of continued absence of bats on the site;
 - Status of roosts (if present);



- If required, identify opportunities for avoidance, mitigation, or compensation measures and/or further ecological surveys;
- If a European Protected Species (EPS) Development Licence is required to ensure legal compliance.

1.3 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- 1.3.1 It is proposed to undertake a number of renovations to the property due to the current state of disrepair.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 BAT ACTIVITY SURVEY

- 2.1.1 Three bat activity surveys (dusk emergence) were undertaken by EcoVigour in July and August 2025.
- 2.1.2 This utilised four surveyors, equipped with full spectrum Batlogger M and M2s bat detectors as well as night vision aids. The night vision aids used were a combination of Canon XA11-60 IR cameras and a Pixfra ARC thermal camera. Sound files were checked and analysed using Bat Explorer.
- 2.1.3 The dusk activity surveys commenced approximately 15 minutes before local sunset and lasted for approximately 1.5- 2hrs.
- 2.1.4 The surveyors were positioned at strategic locations to ensure good line of sight of the buildings and potential access points (Figure 2). Surveyors recorded the times of any foraging, commuting, emerging, or re-entering bats. Additional notes were made on location and direction of flight where bats were deemed to be commuting and utilising the linear habitats at the site.
- 2.1.5 The activity survey was designed and led by Isabella Stephens an NRW and NE Licensed Bat Ecologist.

2.2 INFRA RED, NIGHT VISION AND THERMAL IMAGERY

- 2.2.1 Infra-red, night vision and thermal imagery were utilised at the property to further support the survey effort.
- 2.2.2 These night vision aids were deployed at strategic locations, to add additional visual aids on the structure during the survey. Video footage was downloaded and analysed to help identify bat activity / emergences at these locations.



3 RESULTS

3.1 ACTIVITY SURVEY

Table 1 - Surveyor information

Surveyor	Licences	Ecological experience
Isabella Stephens, Ecologist BSc (Hons), MSc	Level 2 Bat Licence holder for NE and NRW.	Holds a BSc in Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science and an MSc in Advanced Wildlife Conservation in Practice. Experienced in undertaking a wide range of ecological surveys and assessments and has worked on a variety of projects that vary in scale. Experienced in undertaking bat surveys with 6 years' experience undertaking and leading bat surveys and has been a level 2 bat licenced worker in Wales and England for the 2 past years. including Greater and Lesser Horseshoe bat activity surveys. Experienced in the use of GIS, bat sound analysis software amongst others.
Charles Ryder		An experienced ecologist with EcoVigour Ltd who has five seasons worth of bat survey experience.
Joshua Sorley		An experienced sub-contractor with EcoVigour Ltd who has three seasons worth of bat survey experience.
Cameron Quigley		An experienced ecologist with EcoVigour Ltd who has two seasons worth of bat survey experience.
Kate Davies		An experienced ecologist with EcoVigour Ltd who has four seasons worth of bat survey experience.
Troy Aston- Wright		An experienced ecologist with EcoVigour Ltd who has one seasons worth of bat survey experience.
Julian Gregory		Technical Director of EcoVigour Ltd with 5 seasons of bat survey experience.

- 3.1.1 Surveyors were placed in strategic positions to be able to cover the house. 4 surveyors were utilised with line of sight on the building, with the 3x IR cameras and 1x thermal camera used to provide supplementary information. This is to ensure bat activity can be followed around all aspects of the site if an emergence/re-entry occurred. (See Figure 2).

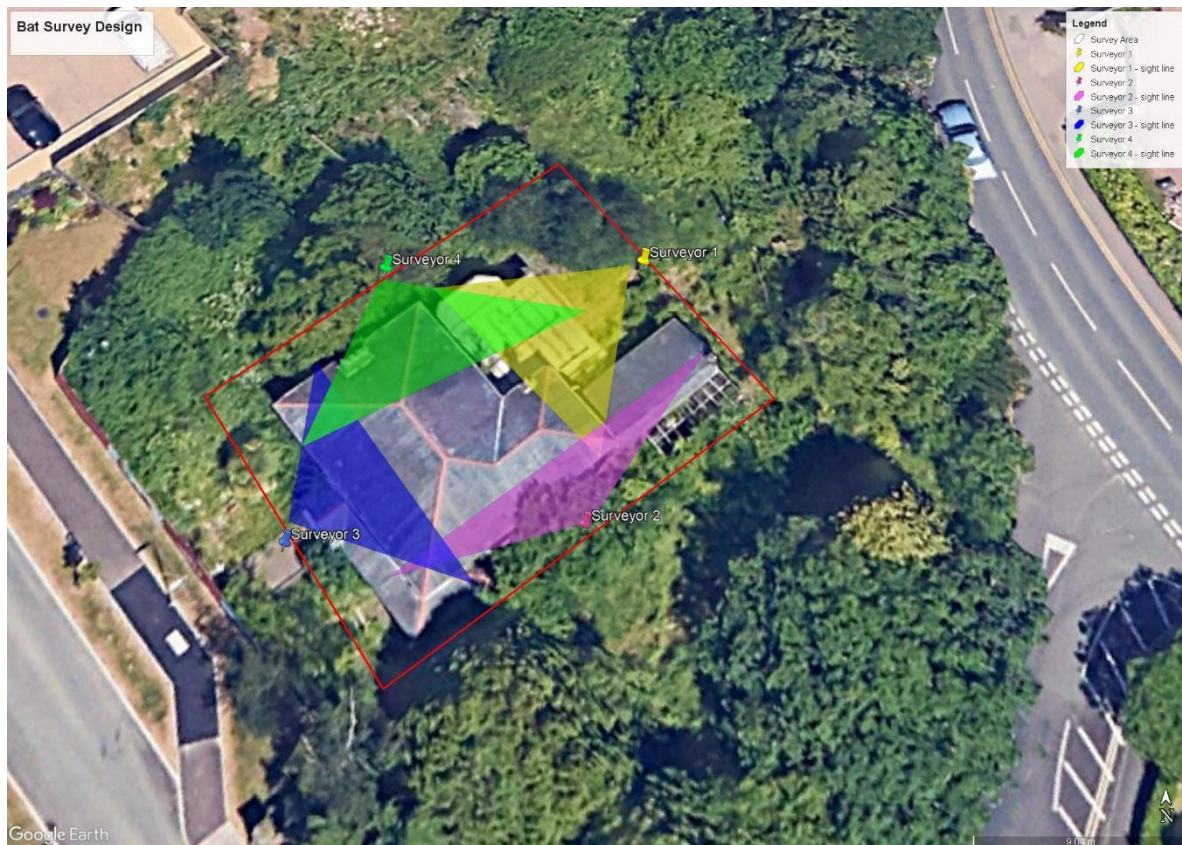


Figure 2 – Survey Design.

Table 2 - Survey Information

Date / Time	Survey Type	Air temp °C	Sunset / Sunrise	Weather conditions		
				Wind Speed (Beaufort)	Rain	Cloud Cover (%)
21/07/2025 21:01 – 22:46	Dusk	Start: 18 End: 17	21:16	0	30%	100%
13/08/2025 20:23 – 22:08	Dusk	Start: 17 End: 16	20:32	0	0%	20%
03/09/2025 19:38 – 21:23	Dusk	Start: 16 End: 15	21:23	0	0	10%

3.1.2 The results of the bat activity survey (dusk presence/absence) are summarised in Table 3.



Table 3 - Survey Results

Survey	Results	Observations
21/07/2025 - Dusk	No bats were seen to emerge from, re-enter or otherwise take any interest in the house during the survey.	2 bat species were heard* and some seen foraging during the surveys. Bat species recorded were: <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> (common pipistrelle) and <i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i> (soprano pipistrelle). There was limited foraging activity from the common pipistrelle recorded during the survey.
13/08/2025 Dusk	No bats were seen to emerge from, re-enter or otherwise take any interest in the house during the survey.	2 bat species were heard* and some seen foraging during the surveys. Bat species recorded were: <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> (common pipistrelle) and <i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i> (soprano pipistrelle). There was limited foraging activity from the common pipistrelle recorded during the survey.
03/09/2025 Dusk	No bats were seen to emerge from, re-enter or otherwise take any interest in the house during the survey.	2 bat species were heard* and some seen foraging during the surveys. Bat species recorded were: <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> (common pipistrelle) and <i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i> (soprano pipistrelle). There were no bats seen during this survey.

*Bat call sonograms can be found at Appendix A.

3.1.3 The property was in poor condition with large leaks, gaps within the roof and dampness inside. It can be determined that no bats are utilising the property for roosting purposes.

3.1.4 There were no emergences/re-entries recorded during the survey. There was very limited foraging activity recorded from a single common pipistrelle however no bats were seen on the final survey.

3.2 INFRA-RED AND THERMAL VIDEO RESULTS

3.2.1 The night vision aids deployed on the survey did not record any emergences on the house during the surveys. Stills of the cameras at the start and end of the surveys can be found in the appendix.

3.3 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIVE COMMENTS

3.3.1 There were no emergences recorded during the surveys. There was very limited foraging activity recorded with calls from both common and soprano pipistrelles being recorded but only a common pipistrelle being seen foraging on two surveys.

3.3.2 The weather conditions were suitable for bat species and within the recommended survey period. It is determined that bats are not utilising the property for roosting purposes.



4 DISCUSSION

4.1 BATS

- 4.1.1 All British bats and any place used for shelter or protection, or breeding site or resting place (their roosts) are fully protected by law under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).
- 4.1.2 Together these protect bats from:
- ◆ Selling, offering for sale, possessing, or transporting for the purpose of the sale or publishing advertisements to buy or sell a protected species.
 - ◆ Deliberate, intentional, or reckless killing, injury or taking of bats.
 - ◆ Damage to or destruction of or, obstruction of access to any place of shelter, breeding (roost), or rest.
 - ◆ Disturbance of an animal occupying a structure or place.
 - ◆ The deliberate disturbance of any bat species in such a way as to be significantly likely to affect;
 - their ability to survive, hibernate, migrate, breed, or rear or nurture their young; or
 - the local distribution or abundance of that species.
- 4.1.3 As there was no evidence of bats utilising the property, no further surveys are required. Additionally, no license is required prior to works on site; however due to previous evidence of a common pipistrelle day roost being found in 2018, it is recommended that the removal of the roof is undertaken in accordance with a method statement under the supervision of a licensed bat ecologist.
- 4.1.4 In the event that bats are discovered during the project, all relevant works will cease and a licence sought and obtained from NRW prior to work recommencing. Mitigation will be required

4.2 BIRD SPECIES

- 4.2.1 The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) is the principal legislation affording protection to UK wild birds. All birds, their nest and eggs are protected by law under this legislation, it is an offence (with certain exceptions), to recklessly or intentionally:
- ◆ Intentionally kill, injure, or take any wild bird.
 - ◆ Intentionally take, damage, or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built.
 - ◆ Intentionally take or destroy the egg of any wild bird.
 - ◆ Intentionally or recklessly disturb any wild bird listed on Schedule 1 while it is nest building, or at a nest containing eggs or young, or disturb the dependent young of such a bird.
- 4.2.2 **Note:** Nesting birds found outside of nesting season are protected by the same level of protection as that within the standard nesting period.
- 4.2.3 If nests are present, then a minimum 5m exclusion zone should be established around the nest(s), and no de-vegetation or other heavy machinery work should be carried out within the exclusion zone(s) until it is confirmed that the nest(s) is completed and that the young have fledged.

4.3 GENERAL

- 4.3.1 It is a requirement that all projects subject to planning controls include measures to benefit biodiversity. It is therefore recommended that wall mounted bat and bird boxes be included within the design of the project .



5 REFERENCES

- ◆ Collins, J. (ed), (2023). Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (4th edn). Bat Conservation Trust London.



APPENDIX A – CALL SONOGRAMS

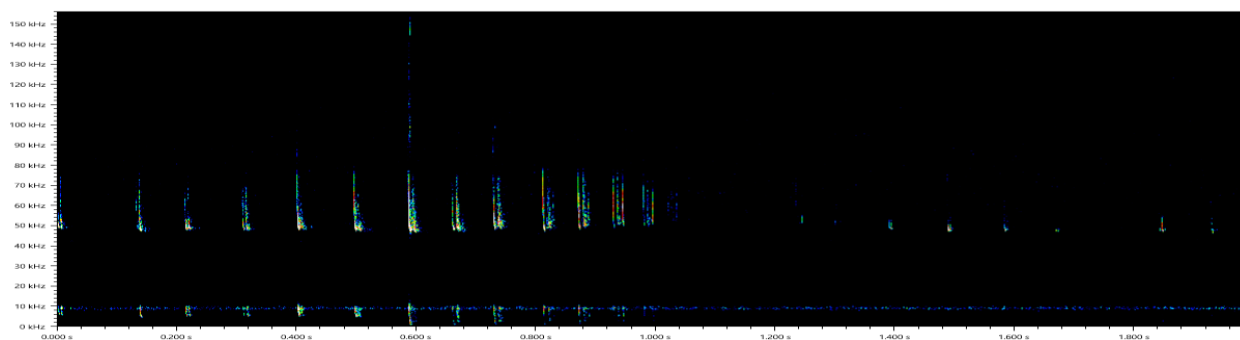


Plate 1 - Common Pipistrelle Call Sonogram

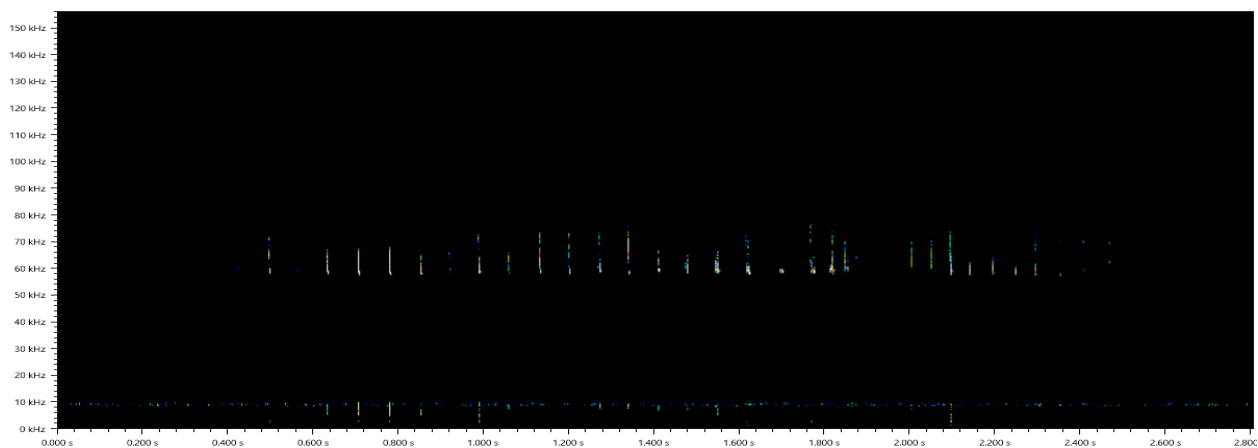


Plate 2 - Soprano Pipistrelle Call Sonogram



APPENDIX B - NVA SCREENSHOTS.

- ◆ These are just examples of the camera quality and the IR light illumination at the darkest point of a survey. All camera screenshots from each survey can be requested however just one survey is shown below.

IR Cam 1	
Start	End
	
IR Cam 2	
Start	End
	
IR Cam 3	
Start	End
	