

From: "Louise Torc Ecology" <louise@torceecology.co.uk>

Subject: RE: TreeCare Oct 2021 Report.pdf

Date: 21 April 2022 at 12:16:09 BST

To: Info Stump <info@drstump.co.uk>

Cc: "Shaun Torc Ecology" <shaun@torceecology.co.uk>

Hi Matt,

If there is a confirmed bat roost and the timescales for the tree removal due to Health and Safety are such that there is no time to apply for the relevant European Protected Species Licence then we will not be able to legalise the disturbance to bats/destruction of bat roost. etc. Therefore, works to remove the tree will be an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations.

In this situation health and safety take precedence; however we would need to contact the police to inform them of the situation. The police will want to see documentation that explains why it is necessary for the tree to be removed immediately (if this is the case) instead of going through the normal procedure of obtaining a bat licence. Therefore the existing arborist report would be reviewed and any further documentation that confirms why the tree needs immediate removal. I would advise any further advice you obtain from TreeCare Consultants is put in writing to support any action going forward. In previous situations I have had a police presence when removing H and S trees with bats but no licence in place.

Similarly if there are nesting birds we may need to obtain a licence from Natural England as all nesting birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act. This licence may not take as much time to approve as a bat licence. However if there is no time again we would have to advise the police as we cannot legalise disturbance or destruction of nesting birds. In this situation we would provide any necessary paperwork for the police records.

I trust the above is clear but if not come back to me.

Kind regards

Louise

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