

INFORMATION SHEET
An Environmental Protection Team Service



Bat
Chiroptera

Bats are insectivorous mammals that hibernate in the winter months. They do not build nests, nor do they chew cables or timbers when in a loft or roof space. In the UK they do not carry diseases that are transmissible to humans. Their droppings are not harmful, consisting entirely of insect exoskeletons. The droppings rapidly dry to a powdery consistency. Mould can however develop on the droppings in damp conditions, which can lead to staining of ceilings.

Due to their declining numbers, all bats and their roosts are protected. Bats can only be disturbed or handled by licensed bat workers. If bats are suspected in any areas where timbers have been treated with insecticides, renovation or development work is to take place, or they are reported as causing a nuisance, the relevant statutory conservation body, the local bat group or a professional wildlife consultant should be contacted.

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