

Elizabeth Seal

3 July 2025

North Hykeham Relief Road

Minor Amendments to Proof of Evidence

Minor amendments to the Proof of Evidence is required as set out below.

Paragraph 4.5.9, 3rd and 4th bullet points are to be replaced with:

- Six buildings to be demolished with bat roost suitability ranging from Low to High of which one has a confirmed Soprano pipistrelle and Common pipistrelle bat roosts (single bats seen entering or exiting up to 5 roost access points on the residential property 46 Station Road)
- ~~Eighteen~~ **Nineteen** trees with moderate or high bat roost suitability and ~~four~~ **seven** trees with low suitability but no roosting identified.

Paragraph 6.4.3 is to be replaced with:

~~Soprano pipistrelle and Common pipistrelle~~ bats have been recorded roosting in residential property 46 Station Road and will require construction phase sensitive demolition under the licence. Replacement roost habitat must also be incorporated into the Scheme to meet protected species licensing requirements. This would be bat boxes installed on nearby retained trees, the details to be included in the Natural England mitigation licence application.

Paragraph 6.4.3 is to be replaced with:

~~Eighteen~~ **Nineteen** trees identified as having moderate or high roost suitability and ~~four~~ **seven** trees with low suitability require felling. Sensitive working methods are set out in the CEMP [CD8.82] and the document to satisfy condition 28. Replacement roost

habitat must also be incorporated into the Scheme to meet mitigation guidance and planning condition 30.

The title of Figure 5 on page 31 is to be replaced with:

Figure 5: The ~~six~~ **four** locations of bat hop-overs

Paragraph 7.4.2 is to be replaced with:

Soprano pipistrelle ~~and common pipistrelle~~ roosts in residential property 46 Station Road will be mitigated by installation of four bat boxes which will be located on retained trees within the vicinity of the roost (in line with Bat mitigation guidance 2023). Although not the main driver, bats will also benefit from the new landscaping around Station Road.

Paragraph 7.4.3 is to be replaced with:

~~Eighteen~~ **Nineteen** trees identified as having moderate or high roost suitability and ~~four~~ **seven** with low suitability require felling. Loss of potential tree roosting habitat will be mitigated through the provision of bat boxes located on retained trees within the west of the Scheme. The precise location to be confirmed under condition 30.

Paragraph 7.4.3 is to be replaced with:

The location of these measures (detailed in Section 6 of my proof) is driven by the results of bat activity surveys which identified linear features used by Barbastelle bats to ensure important commuting routes would be maintained. The mitigation concentrates greatest efforts at locations where activity was highest. At these points a bat bridge (South Hykeham Bat Bridge) was incorporated into the Scheme and a drainage culvert was redesigned to accommodate bats commuting through it (Somerton Gate Lane Bat Culvert). Along other commuting routes where activity was lower, the inclusion of four large trees (16-18cm extra heavy standards >4m height when

planted) within the landscaping scheme ~~either side of the new road~~ at ~~six~~ **four** locations is intended to encourage bats to increase the height of their flight while crossing the road (referred to as hopover points) to reduce the risk of collision with vehicles. Supporting these crossing features is the landscaping proposals which provides linear planting that connect the retained hedgerows either side of the new road to the crossing features.

Paragraph 8.1.7, 3rd and 4th bullet points are to be replaced with:

- Six buildings to be demolished with bat roost suitability ranging from Low to High of which one has a confirmed Soprano pipistrelle and ~~Common pipistrelle~~ bat roosts (single bats seen entering or exiting up to 5 roost access points on the residential property 46 Station Road)
- ~~Eighteen~~ **Nineteen** trees with moderate or high bat roost suitability and ~~four~~ **seven** trees with low suitability but no roosting identified.

Paragraph 8.1.17 is to be replaced with:

Soprano pipistrelle and ~~common pipistrelle~~ roosts in residential property 46 Station Road will be mitigated under licence by installation of four bat boxes on retained trees within the vicinity of the roost.

Paragraph 8.1.18 is to be replaced with:

~~Twenty-two~~ **Twenty six** trees identified as having roost suitability require felling. Loss of potential roosting habitat will be mitigated through the provision of bat boxes located on retained trees. The precise location to be confirmed under condition 30.

Paragraph 8.1.19 3rd bullet point is to be replaced with:

- The inclusion of four large trees within the landscaping scheme ~~either side of the new road~~ at ~~six~~ **four** locations to encourage bats to increase the height of their flight while crossing the road.