

From: [REDACTED] >
Date: Fri, 26 May 2017 at 17:04
Subject: Re: Redington Froggnal Bat Activity Survey, September 2016
To: Redington Froggnal <redfrogemail@gmail.com>
Cc: greg@ecologynetwork.co.uk rupert.terry@gmail.com>

Dear [REDACTED]

Good to hear from you.

The importance of gardens (and green spaces in general) for biodiversity within the urban setting is ever increasingly being recognised and consequently acknowledged within planning policy.

While bats are protected by EU legislation (transcribed in UK law), it is in relation to the animals themselves and their roosts. The degree to which the importance of the gardens in providing foraging and feeding capacity, is down to the LPA.

However, the LPA has a legal duty to consider biodiversity in their decision making process (Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act, 2006): It is clear that the gardens perform a function in supporting bats, so I would expect there would be a sound, evidence-based reason for completely 'ignoring' or 'excluding' the gardens within the RedFrog area. Of course, there may be different approaches. For example, if there was a proposal that had the potential to adversely affect a garden, there could be a requirement for a bat survey to determine the gardens' relative importance for commuting etc. But to give no consideration to the importance of the gardens for bats in light of my survey, I believe may be procedurally incorrect.

wrt to someone to map the gardens which you wish to de-mark as a corridor, this could be done by anyone with a basic knowledge of GIS (this would include many ecologists who are CIEEM members).

I hope the above is of assistance and trust you are keeping well.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my enslaving portable electronic device

On 25 May 2017, at 02:26, Redington Froggnal <redfrogemail@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

We have finally reached the stage where our first draft of the Neighbourhood Plan policies have been submitted to Camden.

Camden is querying Redington Froggnal's definition of a "green corridor". We should like to define it as an area with gardens, which are of importance and are to be preserved. We think that your Bat Activity Survey from last year, which concluded that bats are ubiquitous throughout

gardens in the conservation area, would lend strong support to demonstrating the importance of gardens as a foraging and commuting resource.

Do you think this is sufficient justification for the preservation of gardens and can you think of anything else that we could perhaps add to make the argument even more persuasive?

From page 20 of your September 2016 report:

10. Conclusions

10.1. The ubiquitous presence of common and soprano pipistrelle suggests that the gardens within the Redington - Frognaal area provide significant commuting and foraging resource for bats.

10.2. Where the gardens 'coalesce' into an extensive green corridor, which is also close to the Heath, there appears to be a greater potential for bat roosts / activity.

Another question: I wonder if you might perhaps know of a cartographer or a Geographical Information Systems specialist to map the gardens which we should like to be defined as forming part of a green corridor, please?

The bats must be out of hibernation now and I expect you are very busy. I apologise for troubling you at such a busy time.

Really, your research is proving invaluable.

With best wishes,

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