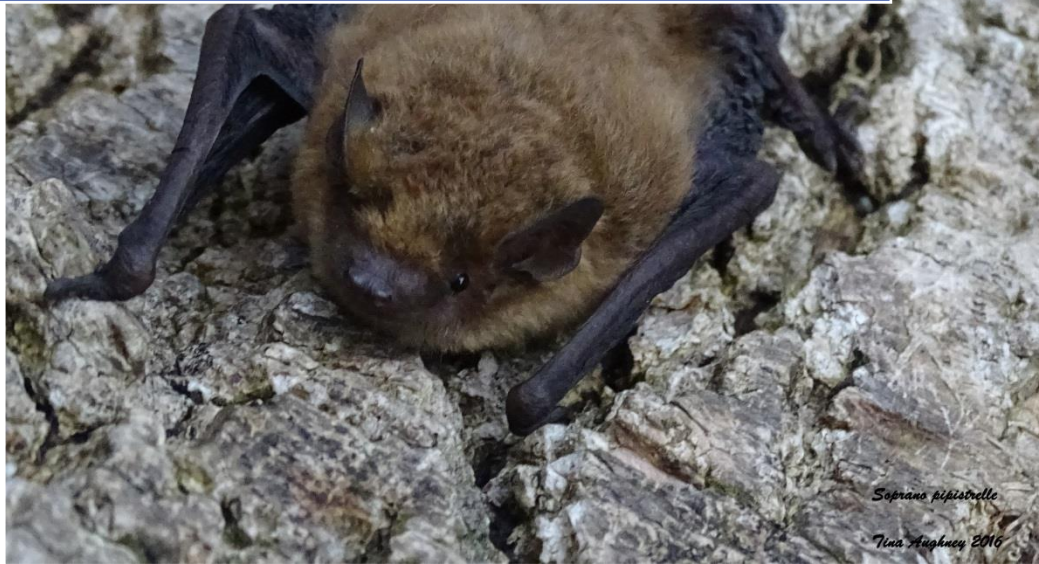


2024

LETTER: Alternative Bat Roosts -  
Mitigation Measures: Spicer's Bakery,  
Rampart's Car Park & Andy Brennan  
park Project, Navan, Co. Meath



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NPWS licence C17/2023 (Licence to handle bats, expires 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026);  
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NPWS licence DER/BAT 2022-36 (Survey licence, expires 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025).

**Statement of Authority:** Dr Aughney has worked as a Bat Specialist since 2000 and has undertaken extensive survey work for all Irish bat species including large scale development projects, road schemes, residential developments, wind farm developments and smaller projects in relation to building renovation or habitat enhancement. She is a monitoring co-ordinator and trainer for Bat Conservation Ireland. She is a co-author of the 2014 publication *Irish Bats in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. This book received the 2015 CIEEM award for Information Sharing. Dr Aughney is a contributing author for the Atlas of Mammals in Ireland 2010-2015.

All analysis and reporting is completed by Dr Tina Aughney. Data collected and surveying is completed with the assistance of a trained field assistant.

Mr. Shaun Boyle (Field Assistant) NPWS licence DER/BAT 2022-37 (Survey licence, expires 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025).

**Citation: Bat Eco Services (2024) Alternative bat Roosts – Mitigation Measures: Spicer’s Bakery, Rampart’s Car Park & Andy Brennan Park Project, Navan, Co. Meath. Unpublished report prepared for Meath Co. Co.**

To whom it may concern:

Bat Eco Services was requested by Meath Co. Co. to erect a bat box scheme as part of bat mitigation measures for proposed development at Spicer’s Mill, Navan, Co. Meath. A site visit was undertaken on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024 and 10 bat boxes were erected at the locations presented on Figure 1 and in Table 1.



Figure 1: Location of bat boxes, Navan, Co. Meath.

Table 1: Location of bat boxes erected as part of bat box scheme.

No.	Bat Box No.	Type	Location	ITM Easting	ITM Northing
1	BB1	2F woodcrete	Andy Brennan Park, Navan, Co. Meath	687232	767746
2	BB2	2F woodcrete	Andy Brennan Park, Navan, Co. Meath	687230	767747
3	BB3	IFF woodcrete	Ramparts, Navan, Co. Meath	687450	767946
4	BB4	IFF woodcrete	Ramparts, Navan, Co. Meath	687458	767948
5	BB5	2F woodcrete	Ramparts, Navan, Co. Meath	687476	767948
6	BB6	2F woodcrete	Ramparts, Navan, Co. Meath	687408	767937
7	BB7	2F woodcrete	Ramparts, Navan, Co. Meath	687322	767934
8	BB8	IFF woodcrete	Ramparts, Navan, Co. Meath	687303	767929
9	BB9	IFF woodcrete	Ramparts, Navan, Co. Meath	687304	767908
10	BB10	IFF woodcrete	Ramparts, Navan, Co. Meath	687348	767930

With the assistance of Meath Co. Co. staff, 10 large summer bat boxes were also erected to mitigate for the demolition of the derelict houses adjacent to Andy Brennan park. The location of these bat boxes are shown by the Red X on Figure 1. One set of bat boxes are erected inside a building to be retained as part of the development of Spicer's Bakery while the 2<sup>nd</sup> set were erected on the external wall of the mill, facing the River Boyne and Boyne Canal and is located along the commuting route of soprano pipistrelles recorded roosting in the derelict buildings adjacent to Andy Brennan Park.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024, the bat boxes were inspected. A total of 11 Leisler's bats were recorded (1FF box – x6 Leisler's bats: 4 female, 2 male; 2FN box: x5 Leisler's bats: 4 female, 1 male). Two bat boxes also had roosting soprano pipistrelles (2F: x8 soprano pipistrelles; 2F x3 soprano pipistrelles) while a third bat box had evidence of *Pipistrellus* spp. bat droppings (1FF bat box). In addition, a small cluster of *Pipistrellus* spp. were also recorded in one of the large summer bat boxes located on the external wall of the mill but due to the height and angle of the bat boxes it was not possible to determine species and exact numbers.

As the bat box scheme was only erected 4 months previously, this is an excellent example of a "quick" occupation of the a bat box scheme and is primarily due to the fact that the bat boxes were located in woodland adjacent to the River Boyne and Boyne Canal, which provides good habitat for commuting and foraging bats.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,  
Dr Tina Aughney.





Plate 1: IFF bat box on mature beech tree adjacent to the River Boyne.





Plate 2: 2F bat box on mature beech tree adjacent to the River Boyne.



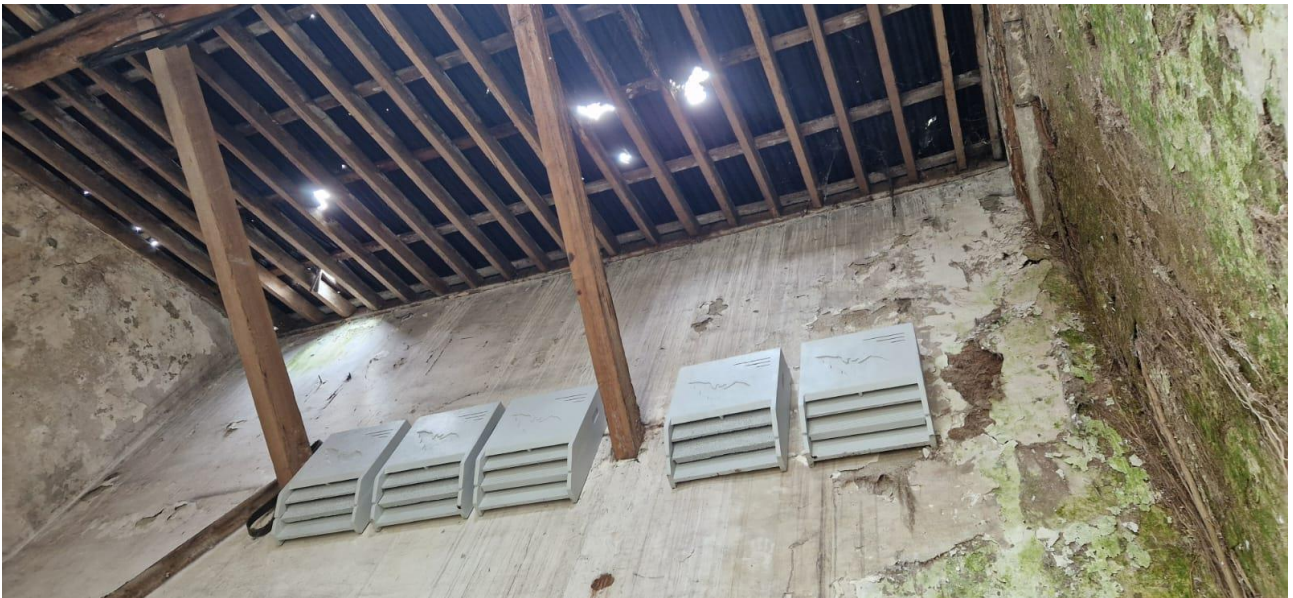


Figure 3: 10 summer bat boxes: location a) inside building (6m off grd) b) external wall (6m off grd).





Figure 4: Images of bats within bat boxes during inspection a) cluster of soprano pipistrelles and b) Single Leisler's bat trying to escape after biometrics survey (bat bag was placed at entrance for 30 minutes until bats settled and then bag was removed).