



NPWS

An tSeirbhís Páircenna
Náisiúnta agus Fíadhúla
National Parks and Wildlife
Service

**Licence Number
DER-BAT-2025-61**

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (BIRDS AND NATURAL HABITATS) REGULATIONS,
2011 (S.I. No 477 of 2011)**

DEROGATION LICENCE

Granted under Regulation 54 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, hereinafter referred to as “the Habitats Regulations”.

The Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by Regulation 54 of the Habitats Regulations hereby grants to **Galway City Council C/O 7L Architects of City Hall, College Rd, Co. Galway** a licence. It is stated that this licence is issued:

- A. In the interests of public health and public safety, or for other imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment
- B. As there is no satisfactory alternative, and the action authorised by this licence will not be detrimental to the maintenance of the population of **bats** referred to below at a favourable conservation status in their natural range.

This licence authorises the following:

1. Roost disturbance
2. Actions authorised within the licence

The licence is issued in respect of the following **bat species**:

- **lesser horseshoe bat** **Rhinolophus hipposideros**
- **soprano pipistrelle** **Pipistrellus pygmaeus**
- **brown long-eared bat** **Plecotus auritus**



NPWS

An tSeirbhís Páircenna
Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra
National Parks and Wildlife
Service

Terms and Conditions

1. This licence is granted solely to allow the activities specified in connection with the works located at **Menlo Castle, Menlo, Co. Galway**, for **Galway City Council C/O 7L Architects**.
2. All activities authorised by this licence, and all equipment used in connection herewith, shall be carried out, constructed and maintained (as the case may be) so as to avoid unnecessary injury or distress to any species of **BAT**. Anything done other than in accordance with the terms of this licence may constitute an offence
3. This licence may be modified or revoked, for stated reasons, at any time.
4. The mitigation measures outlined in the application report (**Menlo Castle BN - 191204 & SK4001_53 - Proposed works to the internal south elevation**), together with any changes or clarification agreed in correspondence between NPWS and the agent or applicant, are to be carried out. Strict adherence must be paid to all the proposed measures in the application.
5. Consent to this licence is with the agreement that the fencing around the building will be repaired and alterations made as these are essential to prevent ongoing disturbances and risk of vandalism or fire within the chimneys that the *Rhinolophus hipposideros* roost within.
6. The actions which this licence authorise shall be completed between **14th January – 31st March 2025, inclusive**.
7. The works will be supervised by bat ecologist **Nathan Finn, Aoife Joyce, Kate Greaney & Ryan Connors of MKO**.
8. Fencing is to be erected before the bats move back into their summer roost.
9. If this licence addresses works that are subject of a planning application, no such works permitted under this licence can occur until planning permission is granted.
10. If this licence expires prior to works permitted under this licence commencing, a new application must be sought in advance, including the provision of any updated data or reports.
11. This licence shall be produced for inspection on a request being made on that behalf by a member of An Garda Síochána or an authorised NPWS officer appointed under Regulation 4 of the Habitats Regulations.
12. The local **NPWS Regional Staff**, Rebecca.Teesdale@npws.gov.ie, must be contacted prior to the commencement of any activity, and if bats are detected on site during the course of the work, under the terms of this licence.
13. On completion of the actions which this licence authorises, all recordings of bat species affected will be made using the standardised data form provided below and must be submitted to the NPWS **within four weeks of the expiry date of this licence**. Included with the below returns form, a report will also be submitted to wildlife.reports@npws.gov.ie detailing results of works and success of mitigation.
Both documents must be submitted to constitute a licence return.



NPWS

An tScribhís Páircanna
Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúla
National Parks and Wildlife
Service

For the Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage

(an officer authorised by the Minister to sign on his behalf)

14 January 2025

Any query in relation to this licence should be sent to wildlifelicence@npws.gov.ie





Article 16 (Habitats Directive) - Returns Form

This returns form is for use in respect of:

Regulation 54 – Derogation Licence to protect wild fauna and conserving natural habitats

1st January to 31st December 2025, inclusive

Licence Number: DER-BAT-2025-61

Licence Holder: Galway City Council C/O 7L Architects

Species (English & Scientific)	No. of Individuals Affected	No. of Breeding Places	No. of Resting Places

Licence Holder Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Returns must be emailed to the following email address:

wildlife.reports@npws.gov.ie