



Swift Ecology Profile

Swift Ecology staff are highly experienced in habitat and species survey, impact assessment and mitigation, and have nationally recognised ecological expertise. We offer a unique level of specialist advice among our wide range of services and we hold relevant licences to work with protected species. Swift Ecology was established in 2007, and works across the UK.

Swift Ethos

We are a small and flexible ecological consultancy with a focus on professionalism and pragmatism. We work to high professional standards, incorporating an ethical approach in conjunction with industry good practice, but recognise the need for pragmatism in applying the law and finding creative solutions to clients' needs that don't compromise our high standards. Our senior staff work closely with the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) to improve standards across the sector and we work in accordance with British Standard BS42020: Code of Practice for Planning and Development.

Swift Ecology staff draw their combined experience from consultancy, local authority and conservation backgrounds, which places us in an ideal position to help clients navigate through the complex planning process; and we pride ourselves in going the extra mile to help our clients understand that process. We have built up excellent working relationships with local authorities, architects and clients and, consequently, a very high proportion of our work comes from repeat business. We believe that good communication, reliability and a personable, friendly approach are important elements in developing good working relationships and achieving successful planning and biodiversity outcomes.

Swift Ecology is committed to innovation in the provision of reliable survey evidence to inform the decision-making process: with the Waterford Institute of Technology we pioneered the use of routine DNA testing of droppings to identify roosting bats and other animal species; more recently we have developed an objective and rigorous approach to help assess the potential of buildings to support roosting bats.

Services

Swift Ecology provides high quality ecological consultancy services to clients including developers, utilities, local authorities, government bodies, landowners, conservation organisations, and academic and professional institutions. Our services include:

- Protected species surveys, assessments and ecological advisory services covering a full range of protected species, as well as invasive plants;
- European protected species (including BLICL) and badger licence applications;

- Specialist techniques for survey and identification of difficult species and habitats, including DNA analysis of biological samples (e.g. droppings or fur) to identify bats and other mammals; eDNA for great crested newts; and tree climbing assessments for bats;
- Habitat and botanical survey (e.g. Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, Phase 1, Phase 2/ NVC);
- Mitigation schemes and method statements required as part of planning conditions;
- Preparation of management plans, biodiversity offsetting schemes/impact assessments and advice on habitat creation, restoration or enhancement;
- Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA);
- Research contracts;
- Training and education; and
- Code for Sustainable Homes and BREEAM assessments.

Swift Ecology Team

We have a small core team of seven staff, supported by numerous specialist subcontractors. Our team members are based across the West Midlands and surrounding areas, so we are ideally placed to help with your local projects.

Managing Director/Principal Ecologist:	Lisa Kerslake BSc MSc CEcol FCIEEM
Directors/Principal Ecologists:	Johnny Birks BSc PhD MCIEEM (part-time) Mike Sharp BSc MCIEEM
Senior Ecologists:	Nick Underhill-Day BSc PhD ACIEEM Anna Dudley BSc MSc MCIEEM
Assistant Ecologists:	Josh Humphries BSc GradCIEEM (part-time) Charlie Long BSc MPhil (part-time)

Contact Us

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