

02 September 2021



Mr M Keir

request-787108-f87041d0@whatdotheyknow.com

Legal Services
County Hall
Spetchley Road
Worcester
WR5 2NP

Dear Mr Keir

Access to information request – Request No RFI 5712

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on 31 August 2021. Your request has been carefully considered under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs).

You asked for:

Please send me a copy of the current class bat licence HS2 are operating under on Phase 1. HS2 are currently clearing vegetation on Bowood La (nearest) post code HP22 6QA. Please show me the appropriate area registered under above licence. What bat species have HS2 surveys found in this area? In light of evidence of greater numbers than anticipated of Barbastelle in the vicinity, please tell me how the overall cumulative effects have been determined. Please tell me how you expect favourable conservation status to be maintained. Please show me what mitigation is in place for roosts that might be found here. Given the deleting of a major feeding corridor at nearby Leather La, as well as Bowood Lane, please tell me how you expect fragmentation in the area to be mitigated.

Please find attached Bats in Trees CL40 and Bats in Building CL39 licences.

No site has been registered with Natural England under either licence for Bowood Lane. As a result, we cannot comment on the survey details or potential mitigation required as this information has not been shared with Natural England. Therefore, EIR Regulation 12(4)(a) – information not held, applies. I would advise contacting HS2 directly.

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If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. As you may be aware, under the legislation should you have any concerns with the service you have received in relation to your requests and wish to make complaint or request a review of our decision, please contact me and

I'll arrange for a colleague to conduct an internal review. Under Regulation 11(2) this needs to be done no later than 40 working days after the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of that complaint or the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure provided by Natural England. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/> or call on 0303 123 1113 (local rate), www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely

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