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BIRDS AND MAMMALS

Bat boxes



Purchase and install boxes in carefully selected locations on building(s) or mature trees.

Suitability	Low, medium and high density housing.
Management type	Wildlife 'housing'.
Supplier information	Consult your local Wildlife Trust for advice on suitable suppliers. Bat Conservation Trust recommend not treating wood. Woodcrete boxes are recommended as they are more durable, provide thermal stability/insulation, and certain designs are self-cleaning. Consult with your Local Environmental Records Centre to find out what species occur in your area.
Community engagement?	Yes – potential to involve volunteer residents in helping to install boxes around site.
Benefits	Increase roosting opportunities for bats around the site.
Costs/Disbenefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial cost: Low (depending on number of boxes). Potential negative perception of bats roosting near/on buildings by residents. Ensure residents are informed and any questions/concerns dealt with through public engagement.
Level of ongoing maintenance	Low (depending on box type).



Image credit: The Co-op Group

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		Notes
How achieved	<p>Purchase and install boxes in carefully selected locations on building(s) or mature trees. Position boxes on a range of aspects at a minimum 4 metres.</p> <p>For more information visit: http://www.bats.org.uk/our-work/buildings-planning-and-development/bat-boxes/putting-up-your-box.</p>	
Timing of activity	<p>Any time.</p>	
Long-term management	<p>Monitor condition.</p> <p>Woodcrete boxes are durable and can last decades, reducing replacement costs compared to wooden boxes, which are liable to rotting and so likely to require replacement more often.</p>	
Monitoring success	<p>Bat walks/emergence surveys. Talk with your Local Environmental Records Centre or local Wildlife Trust to learn more about how to monitor bats as this requires specialist equipment.</p>	