

9th November 2023

Mr. John Walsh

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Portmarnock
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8th October 2018

Certificate of Attendance for Bat Tree Roost Inspection Survey Training for Arborists

This letter is to confirm that Mr. John Walsh of Twin Oak Tree Care attended and successfully completed training in Bat Tree Roost Inspection Survey for Arborists as delivered by Colm Clarke MCIEEM and Andrew Speer MCIEEM of Scott Cawley on Wednesday 18th October 2023 on behalf of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. The training was designed and delivered to equip the attendees (consultant arborists) with the following knowledge and skills, which were set out as learning objectives:

1. To be able to identify a bat
2. To know bat ecology and how it relates to woodlands and trees
3. To know their responsibilities for compliance with wildlife law
4. To be able to recognise tree features of potential importance for bats (potential roost features or PRFs)
5. To recognise evidence that bats are using a PRF in a tree
6. To be able to inspect tree PRFs comprehensively and efficiently
7. To understand what to do when they encounter a bat

The course was completed in-person in Marlay Park, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16, and included practical assessment of surveying skills including use of endoscopes in real PRFs as well as a comprehensive workshop on the law applying to tree removal and roost disturbance. The course included the delivery of a resource pack including a *pro forma* roost inspection survey form for keeping records of inspections.

Course completion **DOES NOT** qualify or permit attendees to undertake any works or activities in relation to bats that are prohibited under Regulation 51 (2) of the *European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011 to 2021*, namely:

- (a) deliberately captures or kills any specimen of these species in the wild,
- (b) deliberately disturbs these species particularly during the period of breeding, rearing, hibernation and migration,
- (d) damages or destroys a breeding site or resting place of such an animal, or

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(e) keeps, transports, sells, exchanges, offers for sale or offers for exchange any specimen of these species taken in the wild, other than those taken legally as referred to in Article 12(2) of the Habitats Directive,

Where a bat(s), or evidence of bats, is encountered in the course of arboriculture works, the arborist shall seek the services or advice of a bat ecologist and/or consult with the National Parks and Wildlife Service to identify next steps.

Yours faithfully,



Colm Clarke BA MSc MCIEEM
Principal Ecologist

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