SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: LESKINFERE CHURCH, CLOGH

SITE CODE: 000702

Leskinfere Church is located at Leskinfere, north of Clough, approximately 5km south of Gorey in Co Wexford. The loft of the church is used as a nursery site by a colony of Natterer's Bat (*Myotis nattereri*). The colony is estimated to number approximately 80 bats but has not been counted since 1988. The church is still in use and the Minister is aware and tolerant of the bats. Repair work was carried out within the last two years. However, this work did not exclude the bats as fresh droppings were found in the loft in 1994.

As the national population of Natterer's Bat is estimated to be only several thousand, this nursery roost is of national importance.

Natterer's Bats are dependent on woodland so any adverse changes to existing woodland within the vicinity could adversely affect the colony by reducing the availability of suitable foraging grounds.

12.11.2009