

**THE BLUE HOUSE NEAR SWANSFIELD FARM RESTON EYEMOUTH - 23/00262/FUL
and 23/00049/RREF**

**RESPONSE TO LOCAL REVIEW BODY REQUEST FOR FURTHER INFORMATION –
COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO SUBMISSION WITH APPEAL OF BAT SURVEY
REPORT DATED SEPTEMBER 2023**

- 1.1 The refusal that is the subject of this appeal was not made on any ecological grounds. Accordingly, the comments that follow do not alter the grounds for its refusal set out in the Case Officer's original Report of Handling.
- 1.2 An ecological report was submitted on behalf of the Appellant during the handling of the application in July 2023 ("the July 2023 Report"). The planning application's Report of Handling considered the July 2023 Report and noted it could not fully establish implications for bats without further surveys for bat activity. The application was refused on separate grounds unrelated to ecological matters in August 2023. The Report of Handling noted that the outstanding surveys had not been submitted but concluded that this was not a reason for refusal.
- 1.3 A bat activity survey report, dated September 2023 ("the New Report"), has now been submitted with this appeal and the Local Review Body has asked the Case Officer and Ecology Officer for comments on this new information.
- 1.4 The Ecology Officer has reviewed the New Report and is satisfied by it. He notes the recommendations for planning conditions made in Table 5 of the original July 2023 Report and the required actions on page 2 of the New Report. If the Local Review Body is minded to overturn the refusal of the application and grant planning permission, conditions to secure these measures should be considered.
- 1.5 The above comments do not alter the grounds for refusing the planning application set out in the original Report of Handling.