

# News from BatLife Europe

## Webinars

### **Bats and Windfarms Webinar**

**Nov 18, 2024 08:00 PM CET 07:00 PM GMT**

Christian Voigt has kindly offered to give a talk on bats and windfarms.

Register in advance here: [Link expired](#)

### **Previous webinars**

Recordings of previous webinars can be found here <https://www.batlife-europe.info/projects/webinars/>

**Action:** We're beginning to plan for further webinars this autumn / winter. If you have a suggestion for a webinar, and would like to volunteer, please let us know.

### **Bat Species of the Year Postcards**

**Action:** The four versions of the "Bat of the Year" postcards have been printed and are ready for distribution (see images on page 2). We have around 10,000 postcards that we can distribute. The postcards are free of charge, **but you will need to pay for postage.**

Please let us know if you would like some postcards and how many you need, and we will do our best to distribute them fairly. We also ask you to provide us with a postal address where the packages can be reliably delivered!

### **European Court of Justice – Complaints guidance document**

Our trustee Donna Mullen has put together a guidance document, giving advice on making complaints to the European Court of Justice. Please see the document on our website for details.

## **Infographics**

Thanks again to those who have helped to translate the text for the Greater Mouse-eared infographic. The most recent translation, Polski, is available on the BLE website, along with all other translated versions: <https://www.batlife-europe.info/publications-resources/>.

**Action:** We still need translations in Italian, Greek, Romanian, Czech, Slovak, Hungarian, Bulgarian, and Ukrainian. If you can help with this, please let us know.

## **BLE Strategy**

BatLife Europe's trustees have been working on planning future strategy for the organisation, and are at the stage where they'd like to present the strategy to partners. For those who were not able to make it to our recent strategy webinar, please can you look at the presentation slides below, and send any feedback you might have on the proposed strategy. In particular, we would welcome your views on the questions in the feedback section, page 14.

## **Noctule Count**

We'd like to say a big thank you to all those who took part this year. The count has now closed for 2024; watch this space next year for information on the 2025 count.

# News from Partners or other Contributors

## **Post your updates here!**

Let us know if you have any news, requests etc. you'd like us to promote in our updates.



**BoY Postcards** – As above, please get in touch if you'd like some 'Bat of the Year' postcards.



# Strategy 2024-2027



# Approach to strategy



Mediterranean and greater horseshoe nursery roost in a former railway tunnel  
(© D Hamidovic Croatian Biospeleological Society)



# Our objectives

1. Evidence in place for effective implementation of recovery plans/ protection of bats in Europe, with a robust Pan-European monitoring programme in place

2. Improved habitat management for bats, with clear best practice for survey and development

3. Policy makers understand the need to protect bats and seek advice from experts before making decisions. Legal protection of bats and effective implementation and enforcement

4. Better understanding and appreciation of bats within Europe

5. Increased capacity within BLE, partner organisations and academic institutions

# Priority outcomes



1. Evidence in place for effective implementation of recovery plans/ protection of bats in Europe, with a robust Pan-European monitoring programme in place

A coordinated Pan-European monitoring programme

Data available on implementation of Habitats Directive

General availability of data including wind turbines collision data.

Gain knowledge of species we have little knowledge of currently

# Priority activities 2024/5

1. Evidence in place for effective implementation of recovery plans/  
protection of bats in Europe, with a robust Pan-European monitoring  
programme in place

Identify  
resources to  
complete the  
current pan-  
European  
indicator and  
publish it

Identify funding  
to continue  
indicator with  
new data

Regular data  
requests to DG  
Environment for  
information on  
derogation  
licences. Share  
with partners

Attend Expert  
Group on  
Reporting

# Priority outcomes



## 2. Improved habitat management for bats, with clear best practice for survey and development

**Consistent pre and post construction surveys for bats particularly for renewables. Consistent measures for renewables across Europe**

**Better managed artificial lighting for bats**

Implementation of best practices in landscape-scale management of agriculture. Management of corridors. Promotion of bats as pest controllers.

Improved forest and tree management

Sustainable use and management of underground sites to promote bat conservation

# Priority activities 2024/5

## 2. Improved habitat management for bats, with clear best practice for survey and development

Promotion of calls for information by Eurobats to our partners.

Highlight issue of artificial lighting via social media and promoting best practice from partners.

Identify and respond to relevant EC Consultations

# Priority outcomes



**3. Policy makers understand the need to protect bats and seek advice from experts before making decisions. Legal protection of bats and effective implementation and enforcement.**

Better understanding of bats by policy makers

Strong legal protection of bats and effective implementation and enforcement

Politicians listening to expert advice or opinions before decisions are made

# Priority activities 2024/25

**3. Policy makers understand the need to protect bats and seek advice from experts before making decisions. Legal protection of bats and effective implementation and enforcement.**

Attend the European  
Habitats Forum  
meetings

Respond to key EC  
consultations on bat  
conservation

Identify gaps in  
information for policy  
makers via  
consultation with  
our partners.

# Priority outcomes



## 4. Better understanding and appreciation of bats within Europe

A common understanding within Europe of the fact that bats are important and should be protected.

Increased awareness of bats by roost owners. Roost owners are supported and encouraged in their conservation efforts

# Priority activities 2024/25

## 4. Better understanding and appreciation of bats within Europe

Bat of the Year

Promotion of bat  
conservation via  
social media

Webinar series

# Priority outcomes



## 5. Increased capacity within BLE, partner organisations and academic institutions

BatLife Europe has the capacity to reach our goals

All partners have capacity to reach their goals

Facilitate the dissemination of scientific information about bats

# Priority activities 2024/25

## 5. Increased capacity within BLE, partner organisations and academic institutions

Apply for funding to increase capacity

Increase citizen science capacity via the Noctule Count

# Feedback from partners



- Which current activities have you found most useful?
- Is there anything not currently in the strategy that you think should be a priority?
- Communication with partners – how best to do this

# We want to hear from you!



## **Current trustees**

Donna Mullen  
Heather Wood  
Kit Stoner (Chair)  
Markus Melber  
Marlot Jonker  
Philippe Theou  
Ulrich Huetmeir

## **BatLifeEurope email:**

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