

## News from BatLife Europe

### **BLE Strategy**

BatLife Europe's trustees have been working on planning future strategy for the organisation, and would like to request feedback from partners.

**Action:** please can you read the slides from our recent strategy webinar 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.

### **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**

We still have some "Bat of the Year" postcards remaining (see images on page 2). The postcards are free of charge, **but you will need to pay for postage.**

**Action:** Please let us know if you would like some postcards, how many you need, and a postal address where the packages can be reliably delivered.

### **2024 Partner Invoices**

We will be issuing the 2024 partner invoices over the next week. If you have any updates about where to send the invoice, please can you let us know.

### **Letter of concern – Danish hibernacula vs motorway**

BatLife Europe trustees responded to a request from a concerned associate in Denmark, regarding a planned new road near several important bat hibernation sites. We have written to the Danish Road Agency to express concern that their Environmental Impact Assessment was not sufficient, and to request that a more detailed assessment be completed.

If you have any similar issues and would like to request our support, please let us know via email [batlifeeurope@bats.org.uk](mailto:batlifeeurope@bats.org.uk)

### **Infographics**

The most recent version of the Greater Mouse-eared infographic, Polski, is now available on the BLE website, along with 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.

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

BLE 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.

## 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

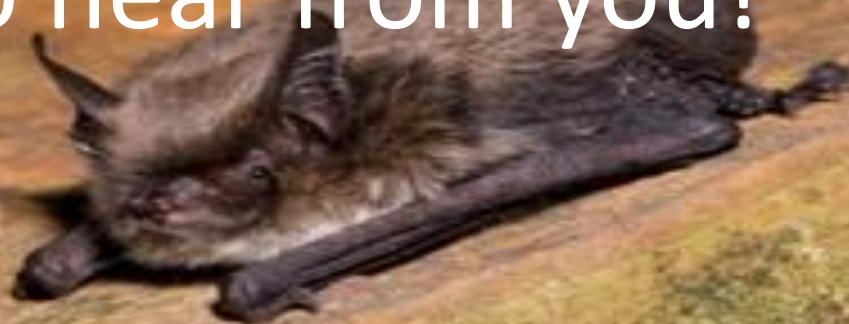
Increase citizen science capacity via the Noctule Count

# 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:**

[batlifeeurope@bats.org.uk](mailto:batlifeeurope@bats.org.uk)