



# **LEATHER LANE, GREAT MISSENDEN**

Analysis of Independent Bat Monitoring 2021-2022

April 2023

E2047/LL/R1



COMMISSIONED BY:  
Leather Lane Community Group

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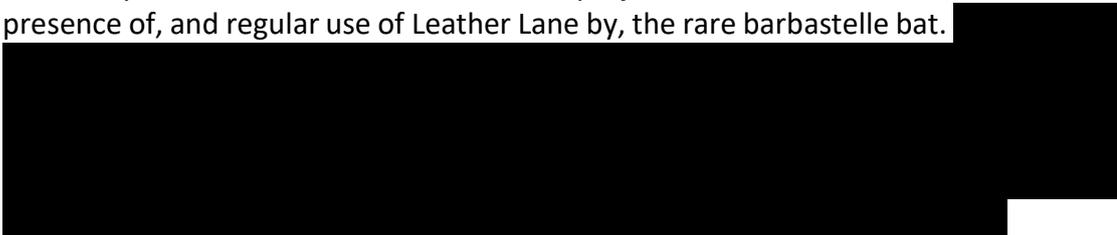
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Bioscan Report No.  
E2047/LL/R1

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- i. This report presents summary data and analysis from static bat detector recordings taken at Leather Lane between May 2021 and October 2022.
- ii. The data was collected by Leather Lane Community Group (LLCG) in connection with concerns about the impact of HS2 construction works (and related activities) on the Lane, and in particular whether sufficient efforts had been expended by HS2 Ltd to understand the use of the Lane by bats, the species concerned, the Lane's importance to local bat populations and the local and wider significance of the impacts arising from the HS2 construction works.
- iii. The data show that the tree line along Leather Lane is unquestionably of importance for local bat populations – indeed that importance is likely to have increased in the wake of removal of alternative local landscape-scale bat commuting conduits over the last two years in connection with the HS2 project. The data also confirms the local presence of, and regular use of Leather Lane by, the rare barbastelle bat. 
- iv. This report has been compiled in order to present the analyses of the 2021-2022 dataset and thereby provide information that will assist Buckinghamshire Council in their deliberations in connection with the approval process for the detailed design of an overbridge pursuant to Schedule 17 of the High Speed Rail (London – West Midlands) Act 2017.
- v. LLCG maintain that the data presented in this report confirm that the Lane has a higher value for bat species than is recognised and/or accounted for in the Environmental Statement for the HS2 project, and that this underscores the need for the most sensitive overbridge design to be pursued, in accordance with the mitigation hierarchy and the statutory obligations upon both HS2 Ltd and Buckinghamshire Council under S40-41 of the NERC 2006 (as amended by the Environment Act 2021)