### PROJECT PROFILE- NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL BRIDGE MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME-ECOLOGY SURVEYS

## **KEY ELEMENTS**

#### CLIENT

North Yorkshire County Council.

#### LOCATION

North Yorkshire

#### SCOPE OF SERVICES

- Desk Study
- Bat Surveys
- Otter Surveys
- Water Vole Surveys
- White-clawed Crayfish Surveys

#### DATE OF PROJECT

April-September 2015

Client Details:

John Smith Bridges and Structures Manager, North Yorkshire County Council, Business and Environmental Services, County Hall Northallerton DL7 8AH

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# North Yorkshire County Council Bridge Maintenance Programme-Ecology Surveys



As part of the annual bridge maintenance work, North Yorkshire County Council commissioned AB Ecology to undertake various protected species surveys prior to works being undertaken on the bridges, to ensure compliance with EU and UK Legislation.

Surveys focused on protected species including bats, otter, water vole and whiteclawed crayfish. In 2015 surveys were undertaken on five bridges throughout North Yorkshire. One bridge had a bat roost present, another had water vole burrows in close proximity to the area of work and two others had evidence of otter adjacent to the bridge.

AB Ecology recommended mitigation measures which included timing the work to avoid months when species were present and changing how work was carried out to avoid impacts on certain areas. This allowed the works to continue without the need to obtain a European Protected Species (EPS) Mitigation Licence or Conservation Licence. By taking this pragmatic and cost-effective approach, maintenance works could be carried out on schedule.





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