European Community Directive
on the Conservation of Natural Habitats
and of Wild Fauna and Flora
(92/43/EEC)

Fourth Report by the United Kingdom
under Article 17

on the implementation of the Directive
from January 2013 to December 2018

Conservation status assessment for the species:

S1309 - Common pipistrelle (Pipistrellus pipistrellus)

UNITED KINGDOM
IMPORTANT NOTE - PLEASE READ

• The information in this document represents the UK Report on the conservation status of this species, submitted to the European Commission as part of the 2019 UK Reporting under Article 17 of the EU Habitats Directive.

• It is based on supporting information provided by the geographically-relevant Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies, which is documented separately.

• The 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document provides details on how this supporting information contributed to the UK Report and the fields that were completed for each parameter.

• The reporting fields and options used are aligned to those set out in the European Commission guidance.

• Maps showing the distribution and range of the species are included (where available).

• Explanatory notes (where provided) are included at the end. These provide additional audit trail information to that included within the UK assessments. Further underpinning explanatory notes are available in the related country-level reports.

• Some of the reporting fields have been left blank because either: (i) there was insufficient information to complete the field; (ii) completion of the field was not obligatory; and/or (iii) the field was not relevant to this species (section 12 Natura 2000 coverage for Annex II species).

• The UK-level reporting information for all habitats and species is also available in spreadsheet format.

Visit the JNCC website, https://jncc.gov.uk/article17, for further information on UK Article 17 reporting.
# Report on the main results of the surveillance under Article 11 for Annex II, IV and V species (Annex B)

## NATIONAL LEVEL

### 1. General information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1.1 Member State</th>
<th>UK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Species code</td>
<td>1309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Species scientific name</td>
<td>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 Alternative species scientific name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 Common name (in national language)</td>
<td>Common pipistrelle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2. Maps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2.1 Sensitive species</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.2 Year or period</td>
<td>1994-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Distribution map</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 Distribution map Method used</td>
<td>Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5 Additional maps</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3. Information related to Annex V Species (Art. 14)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.1 Is the species taken in the wild/exploited?</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.2 Which of the measures in Art. 14 have been taken?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) regulations regarding access to property</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) temporary or local prohibition of the taking of specimens in the wild and exploitation</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) regulation of the periods and/or methods of taking specimens</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) application of hunting and fishing rules which take account of the conservation of such populations</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) establishment of a system of licences for taking specimens or of quotas</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) regulation of the purchase, sale, offering for sale, keeping for sale or transport for sale of specimens</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) breeding in captivity of animal species as well as artificial propagation of plant species</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h) other measures</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.3 Hunting bag or quantity taken in the wild for Mammals and Acipenseridae (Fish)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a) Unit</th>
<th>Statistics/quantity taken</th>
<th>Provide statistics/quantity per hunting season or per year (where season is not used) over the reporting period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Season/year 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Min. (raw, ie. not rounded)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max. (raw, ie. not rounded)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.4 Hunting bag or quantity taken in the wild Method used

3.5 Additional information

4. Biogeographical and marine regions

4.1 Biogeographical or marine region where the species occurs

Atlantic (ATL)

England
Jones, G and Racey, P.A. (2008). Common pipistrelle Pipistrellus pipistrellus, Soprano pipistrelle Pipistrellus pygmaeus. Pages 343-351 In Harris, S and Yalden,
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Lintott, P.R., Barlow, K., Bunnefeld, N., Briggs, P., Gajas Roig, C., and Park, K.J. (2016). Differential responses of cryptic bat species to the urban landscape. Ecology and Evolution, 6 (7), 2044-2052
Scotland
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Wales


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JNCC/Tracking Mammals Partnership. JNCC, Peterborough
Mathews F, Richardson SM, Hosken DJ. 2016. Understanding the risks to bat populations posed by wind turbines - Phase 2 - WC0753, Defra.
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Species: S1309 - Common pipistrelle bat (Pipistrellus pipistrellus)
N.Ireland
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5. Range

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5.1 Surface area (km²)</th>
<th>233480</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.2 Short-term trend Period</td>
<td>2013-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3 Short-term trend Direction</td>
<td>Stable (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.4 Short-term trend Magnitude</td>
<td>a) Minimum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.5 Short-term trend Method used</td>
<td>Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.6 Long-term trend Period</td>
<td>a) Minimum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.7 Long-term trend Direction</td>
<td>b) Maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.8 Long-term trend Magnitude</td>
<td>a) Area (km²) 230973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.9 Long-term trend Method used</td>
<td>b) Operator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.10 Favourable reference range</td>
<td>c) Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>d) Method</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The FRR is the same as in 2013. The value is considered to be large enough to support a viable population and no lower than the range estimate when the Habitats Directive came into force in the UK. For further information see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.

The current range surface area has been calculated using the method outlined in Mathews et al. (2018) and is based on presence data collected between 1995-2016. Areas that contain very isolated records may not have been included in the area of distribution. The new, more robust method of calculating range has reduced the estimated range size for this species since 2013. This does not represent a real reduction in range. Current range is above the FRR.

5.11 Change and reason for change in surface area of range

Improved knowledge/more accurate data
Use of different method
The change is mainly due to: Use of different method

5.12 Additional information

Trend in range has been assessed by using the 2019 distribution data and the 2013 method for calculating range, and comparing that with range surface area in 2013. For further details please see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document and country assessments.
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## 6. Population

### 6.1 Year or period

1994-2018

### 6.2 Population size (in reporting unit)

- **a) Unit**: number of map 1x1 km grid cells (grids1x1)
- **b) Minimum**
- **c) Maximum**
- **d) Best single value**: 31559

### 6.3 Type of estimate

- **Minimum**

### 6.4 Additional population size (using population unit other than reporting unit)

- **a) Unit**: number of individuals (i)
- **b) Minimum**: 1100600
- **c) Maximum**: 7843000
- **d) Best single value**: 95% confidence interval

### 6.5 Type of estimate

- **Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate**
  - **2003-2018**
  - Increasing (+)

### 6.6 Population size Method used

- **Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data**

### 6.7 Short-term trend Period

2003-2018

### 6.8 Short-term trend Direction

**Increasing (+)**

### 6.9 Short-term trend Magnitude

- **a) Minimum**
- **b) Maximum**
- **c) Confidence interval**

### 6.10 Short-term trend Method used

**Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data**

### 6.11 Long-term trend Period

**2003-2018**

### 6.12 Long-term trend Direction

**Increasing (+)**

### 6.13 Long-term trend Magnitude

- **a) Minimum**
- **b) Maximum**
- **c) Confidence interval**

### 6.14 Long-term trend Method used

**Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data**

### 6.15 Favourable reference population (using the unit in 6.2 or 6.4)

- **a) Population size**
- **b) Operator**
- **c) Unknown**
- **d) Method**: Approximately equal to (≈)

The FRP has changed since 2013. An FRP operator has been used because it has not been possible to calculate the exact FRP value. The current population (individuals) is considered to be a viable population and is no less than when the Habitats Directive came into force in the UK. For further details see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document. The confidence limits for the population estimate are extremely wide and methodologies have changed. A best single value for the population has not been provided because of the level of uncertainty around the population estimate. Instead the lower and upper confidence intervals provide minimum and maximum limits to the
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6.16 Change and reason for change in population size

- Genuine change
- Improved knowledge/more accurate data
- Use of different method

The change is mainly due to: Genuine change

6.17 Additional information

The 1km square count has been calculated from the UK count of 1km squares where the species has been recorded. This is a minimum count because it only includes number of recorded occupied 1km squares. UK population estimates have been derived from the GB estimate in Mathews et. al., 2018, and the Northern Ireland estimate from the 2013 Article 17 report. The UK National Bat Monitoring Programme (NBMP) has recorded a statistically significant increase in P. pipistrellus between 2006-2017. Knowledge of the species has improved. The change is also due to a different method for calculating population size. The current population (in individuals) is considered to be approximately equal to the FRP and is sufficient to maintain a viable population.

7. Habitat for the species

7.1 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat

a) Are area and quality of occupied habitat sufficient (for long-term survival)?

- Yes

b) Is there a sufficiently large area of unoccupied habitat of suitable quality (for long-term survival)?

Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

7.2 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat Method used

Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

7.3 Short-term trend Period

2007-2018

7.4 Short-term trend Direction

Stable (0)

7.5 Short-term trend Method used

Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

7.6 Long-term trend Period

7.7 Long-term trend Direction

7.8 Long-term trend Method used

7.9 Additional information

The species requires a complex mosaic of habitats to support foraging, roosting and commuting behaviour. The stable habitat trend is based on limited data and expert opinion.

8. Main pressures and threats

8.1 Characterisation of pressures/threats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pressure</th>
<th>Ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conversion from one type of agricultural land use to another (excluding drainage and burning) (A02)</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removal of small landscape features for agricultural land parcel consolidation (hedges, stone walls, rushes, open ditches, springs, solitary trees, etc.) (A05)</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of plant protection chemicals in agriculture (A21)</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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8.2 Sources of information
8.3 Additional information

Conversion to other types of forests including monocultures (B02)
Logging without replanting or natural regrowth (B05)
Wind, wave and tidal power, including infrastructure (D01)
Roads, paths, railroads and related infrastructure (e.g. bridges, viaducts, tunnels) (E01)
Construction or modification (e.g. of housing and settlements) in existing urban or recreational areas (F02)
Residential or recreational activities and structures generating noise, light, heat or other forms of pollution (F24)
Industrial or commercial activities and structures generating noise, light, heat or other forms of pollution (F25)

9. Conservation measures

9.1 Status of measures
   a) Are measures needed? Yes
   b) Indicate the status of measures Measures identified and taken

9.2 Main purpose of the measures taken
   Maintain the current range, population and/or habitat for the species

9.3 Location of the measures taken
   Both inside and outside Natura 2000

9.4 Response to the measures
   Medium-term results (within the next two reporting periods, 2019-2030)

9.5 List of main conservation measures
10. Future prospects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10.1 Future prospects of parameters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Habitat of the species</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10.2 Additional information

Future trend in Range is Overall stable; Future trend in Population is Very Positive - increasing >1% (more than one percent) per year on average; and Future trend in Habitat for the species is Overall stable. For further information on how future trends inform the Future Prospects conclusion see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.

11. Conclusions

| 11.1. Range                        | Favourable (FV) |
| 11.2. Population                   | Favourable (FV) |
| 11.3. Habitat for the species      | Favourable (FV) |
| 11.4. Future prospects             | Favourable (FV) |
| 11.5 Overall assessment of         |  
| Conservation Status               |  
| 11.6 Overall trend in Conservation Status | Improving (+)  
| 11.7 Change and reasons for change in conservation status and conservation status trend | a) Overall assessment of conservation status  
No change  
The change is mainly due to:  
b) Overall trend in conservation status  
No change  
The change is mainly due to:  

Conclusion on Range reached because: (i) the short-term trend direction in Range surface area is stable; and (ii) the current Range surface area is not less than the Favourable Reference Range.

Conclusion on Population reached because: (i) the short-term trend direction in Population size is increasing; and (ii) the current Population size is approximately equal to the Favourable Reference Population.

Conclusion on Habitat for the species reached because: (i) the area of occupied habitat is sufficiently large and (ii) the habitat quality is suitable for the long-term survival of the species; and (iii) the short-term trend in area of habitat is stable.

Conclusion on Future prospects reached because: (i) the Future prospects for Range are good; (ii) the Future prospects for Population are good; and (iii) the Future prospects for Habitat for the species are good.

Overall assessment of Conservation Status is Favourable because all of the conclusions are Favourable.

Overall trend in Conservation Status is based on the combination of the short-term trends for Range - stable, Population - increasing, and Habitat for the species - stable.

Overall assessment of Conservation Status has not changed since 2013.

Overall trend in conservation status was not reported for this species in 2013. However, from the information available the overall trend would have been improving in 2013 and so there has been no change since the last reporting round.

### 12. Natura 2000 (pSCIs, SCIs and SACs) coverage for Annex II species

**12.1 Population size inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network (on the biogeographical/marine level including all sites where the species is present)**

**12.2 Type of estimate**

**12.3 Population size inside the network Method used**

**12.4 Short-term trend of population size within the network Direction**

**12.5 Short-term trend of population size within the network Method used**

**12.6 Additional information**
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Figure 1: UK distribution map for S1309 - Common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*). Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and Gas Authority.

The 10km grid square distribution map is based on available species records within the current reporting period. For further details see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.
The range map has been produced by The Mammal Society applying a range mapping tool as outlined in Matthews et al. (2018), to the 10km grid square distribution map presented in Figure 1. The alpha value for this species was 20km. For further details see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.