

DORMOUSE SURVEY GUIDELINES HAVE CHANGED.

See what you need to know in 2026.

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CIEEM
REGISTERED
PRACTICE 2025-2026

Read More →



WHY HAZEL DORMOUSE GUIDELINES MATTER

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Why the update is significant:

Dormice are one of the UK's most vulnerable mammals and are a fully protected Species.
Accurate detection = informed planning decisions.

The new guidance aims to:

- ✓ Improve survey sensitivity
- ✓ Reduce false negatives
- ✓ Increase national consistency
- ✓ Strengthen evidence for planning

🟦 Updated methods now apply to all surveys going forward.



About Tunnels →

FROM TUBES TO TUNNELS

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One take away:

Dormouse tunnels are now a standard survey method.

This season, our team deployed dormouse tunnels for the first time, fully aligned with the updated guidelines.

What's changed:

- 🔄 Placement
- 🔍 Spacing
- 📅 Effort requirements
- 📝 Data interpretation



These survey updates give developers more reliable and robust survey results, up to **twice as fast** as previous survey methods.

EXPERIENCE MATTERS

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New Methods Take Time But We've Been Ahead of the Curve. Greg first trained in dormouse tunnel methods in 2016. Nearly a decade before official adoption.

This experience helps us:

- ✓ Navigate old vs new standards
- ✓ Apply survey effort correctly
- ✓ Reduce planning uncertainty
- ✓ Provide robust, defensible evidence

Good ecology benefits from long-term expertise.

What This Means →

WHAT THIS MEANS

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For Developers and Planners

If Your Site Contains Suitable Habitat, Surveys May Still Be Required.

Key habitats include:

- Ancient woodland
- Species-rich hedgerows
- Hazel coppice
- Woodland edge / scrub
- Connected linear networks

Updated methods = updated expectations.
We help you plan early to avoid delays.

Get Support →

HOW WE SUPPORT YOU

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Our Dormouse Survey Services Include:

- ✓ Early site appraisal & constraints screening
- ✓ Updated tunnel methodology
- ✓ Suitable survey effort planning
- ✓ Mitigation & Natural England licensing
- ✓ Clear reporting for planning applications

Compliance and progress working hand-in-hand.





The Breakdown →

THE FULL BREAKDOWN

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Updated for 2026...

Our Infographic summarises:

- Survey Processes
- Methods
- Timings
- Licensing
- Habitat triggers
- What developers need to know for 2026



🔗Available for download in our **Resources Library**: www.Luscinia-Ecology.co.uk/Resources



Expert Advice →

NEED DORMOUSE ADVICE FOR YOUR SITE?

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Our ecologists are here to guide you through the updated requirements.

Contact Us Today.

