

Bat Conservation Trust



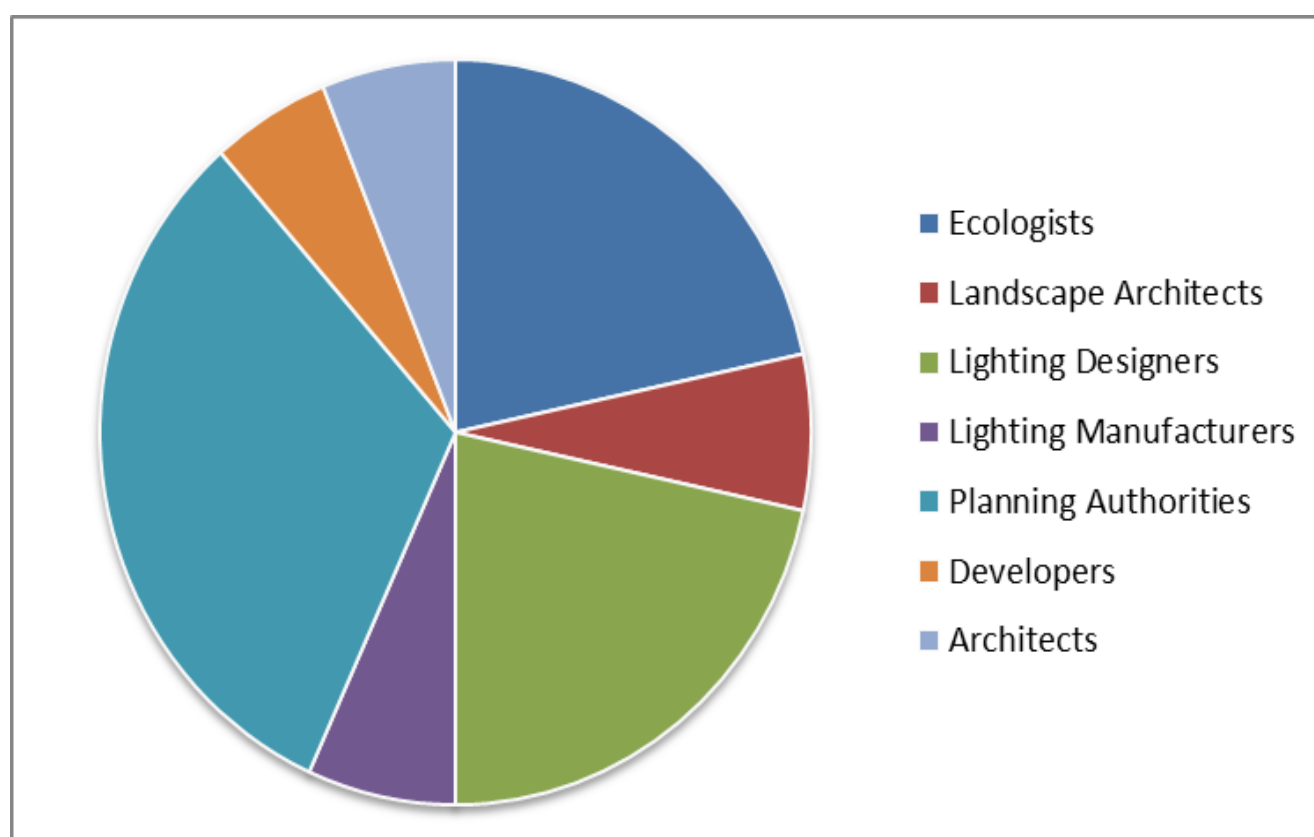
Transcript of feedback from attendees of the Artificial Light and Wildlife Symposium – March 2014

Questions relating to the production of an Artificial Lighting and Wildlife guidance document

Do you consider that there is a need to produce consistent advice on how to carry out lighting surveys for ecologists, or should existing guidance be better circulated?

- A summary of requirements of lighting (eg to meet standards) and therefore what we can expect would be useful
- Ecologists can give guidance to lighting specialists regarding design, but surveys should be carried out by lighting specialists
- Guidance exists but general lighting designers and engineers are not well informed
- Yes, but this needs to be led by better communication between lighting ecologists and designers
- Needs more focus on the ecological aspects rather than human considerations. Guidance to explain what can be done in terms of lighting surveys/assessment and when appropriate
- Should lighting surveys be carried out by ecologists? Do they have the necessary skills?
- There needs to be guidance that influences what data is collected so that the correct information is collated for the ecology assessment
- Yes, but it should be carried out by a competent lighting professional – CIE-150 and ILP Report details the process
- Consistency – absolutely! Lighting surveys must be carried out with lighting designers
- Yes, especially on light level measuring

Who do you consider to be the most important audiences for any guidance?



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Should any guidance produced include technological specifications for lighting design, or would this make the guidance become out of date too quickly?

- I think there definitely needs to be some specifications, but using measures that apply to different light types etc. (eg lux, wavelength, directionality)
- In broad terms yes. It's better to explain the principals and let them match their products to it than to be too specific and risk the impression there are limited options.
- Yes, general specification would always be useful and pointers to the most up to date information
- Each guidance can and will be outdated at some time, but the knowledge we presently have is useful and should be put into practice; no UV, importance of directed light etc. But, no lighting manufacturer or company should be specifically promoted via such guidelines and specifications.
- Yes, we need a start and references to the research to help local authorities set standards.
- Should look to define what should be considered and important aspects to be looked at, but not prescriptive standards in relation to lighting technology
- Yes. The guidance of specifications could at least be a starting point. Additional technology or changes in research can be added into later editions.
- Technology does not really help good design process. Need to ensure competent designers who understand lighting
- Just produce regular updates as with other forms of guidance.
- Technical specifications regarding spectrums would be useful.
- Rather than specifications perhaps a resource which could link to technological options

What do you consider are the biggest barriers to the impacts of lighting on wildlife being properly considered?

- Lack of guidance
- Public perception that more light is better
- Easy access to knowledge
- There is a 'cost' in terms of time to get new technologies accepted by: the project team, the client, the authority, which makes it more expensive
- Lack of a charismatic umbrella species to be the face of a movement – the public need to be able to focus on one thing to hold their interest
- I see the biggest barrier is profit. We already have a lot of knowledge on damaging light to wildlife, but it does not get implemented
- Local authorities' disinterest in lighting
- Ignorance that lighting is an issue
- Lack of good science resulting in lack of good guidance
- Lack of knowledge in ecologists and local authorities
- Making it too complicated so that developers are put off
- Awareness
- Massive lack of knowledge on the full impacts of something that is now ubiquitous ie lighting at public places.
- Energy and carbon savings by local authorities using LEDs
- Early scheme involvement of both ecologists and lighting professionals
- Good communication and understanding between practitioners from different fields
- Client buy in
- Support from planning authorities
- Local authority policy
- Gaps in knowledge
- Development costs
- Team communication
- Lack of published guidance to provide local authorities with the details of what to ask for
- Ecologists not being involved in the process early enough
- Local planning policy and guidance, or the lack of it
- Perception that it is a black and white issue and a lack of knowledge about the different options
- Local planning policy and the lack of pressure from central government
- Lack of ecological knowledge in planning authorities
- Simple easy to use guidance

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