



## About the Mammal Atlas...

After the successful publication of Worcestershire's Mammals by Worcestershire Recorders, we are calling for records as part of a final three-year push to collate data for the next survey period (2007-2019).

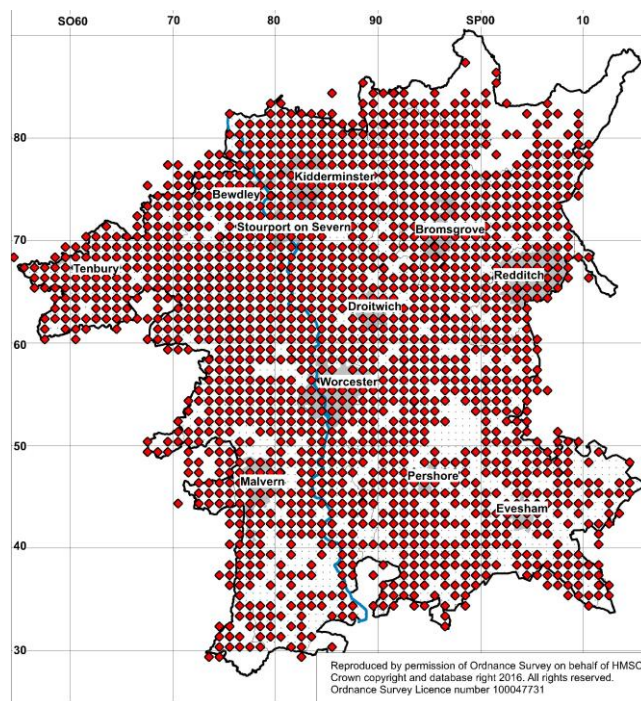
All mammal species are important to us – no matter how common they are (or are perceived to be!) In the last atlas there were more records of the rare and protected dormouse (102) than some of its mousey mates; yellow-necked (60), house (51) and harvest mice (only 26!).

Furthermore in the last survey period, grey squirrels were seemingly absent from numerous monads to the south east of the county. There were 433 monads (c.20%) with no mammal records at all (see map).

Are these findings a true reflection of distribution or a result of recording bias?? Hopefully you can help us to begin to answer this question, and others!

Records of more common mammals like rabbits can also help to inform us if there are potential threats looming for carnivorous mammals and birds (i.e. dips in prey population/distribution).

Finally, it is a sad fact that many of the mammal sightings we encounter are road casualties – please let their death not be in vain and send the records to us – they still provide very useful information on species distribution.



## Filling in the form....

**Species Name:** For mammal records using the common name is best.

**Grid Ref:** A six-figure (or better!) Ordnance Survey grid reference is preferred as this is the most accurate method of recording the location. If you need assistance with grid refs there are useful resources on the internet <https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/docs/support/guide-to-nationalgrid.pdf> alternatively so long as you provide a location name too, we can obtain grid refs from postcodes. As a guide, all grid references in Worcestershire should start with either SO or SP.

**Location/Site Name:** Being as accurate/specific as possible is recommended i.e. street name, road name/number (road casualty records) specific section within a known larger site or reserve.

**Date:** Ideally day/month/year, but if not possible then month/year is fine.

**Comments:** Try to include as much information as possible about the record. The following information, if available would be useful additions:

- Auditory record; heard, bat detector
- Live sighting; how many, what were they doing, adult/juvenile, male/female
- Dead; dead on road, corpse, poisoned
- Field signs; nest, den, run, droppings, prints, hair/fur, feeding remains. We can help with species ID if you are able to collect a sample of certain field signs and/or take photographs.
- Habitat

**Photographs:** Where possible try to get some photographs – this may be difficult with live sightings but are a great way of recording field signs and dead animals (photos can be emailed to [records@wbrc.org.uk](mailto:records@wbrc.org.uk)).

**Determiner:** If a local/national expert helped with the ID of any records please let us know who assisted you.

*Please note that all records submitted to WBRC will be entered onto our computer database and may be passed on to third parties in an effort to increase understanding of the biodiversity of Worcestershire. Personal details relating to recorders are not passed on and would only ever be with specific prior permission of the individual recorder. WBRC also retains the right to reject records not fulfilling the basic attribute requirements.*