

# Guidance: Protected species licences: references for applications

*Updated:* Clarification on guidance to upgrade a survey class licence.

You must give written references to support a photography, survey, science, conservation, research or European protected species mitigation licence application or registration if you:

- have not held a licence for the species (or a similar species) in the last 3 years
- have a licence but want to add new activities

Use this guidance to find out about who can be your referee and the experience you both need.