



**Cyfoeth
Naturiol
Cymru
Natural
Resources
Wales**

Ein cyf/Our ref: **CAS-25922-N2N4**
Eich cyf/Your ref: **2016/00305/RG3**

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The Vale of Glamorgan Council
Development Control
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30 November 2016

Annwyl Syr/Madam / Dear Sir/Madam,

PROPOSAL IS FOR ON LINE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE EXISTING A4226 BETWEEN WAYCOCK CROSS ROUNDABOUT IN BARRY AND THE LAY-BY TO THE NORTH OF THE WELSH HAWKING CENTRE AND AN OFF LINE NEW ROAD PROVISION TO THE EAST OF THE EXISTING A4226 WHICH WILL RECONNECT WITH THE EXISTING A4226 JUST TO THE SOUTH OF BLACKLAND FARM AT LAND ADJACENT A4226, FIVE MILE LANE, BARRY.

Thank you for consulting us on additional information submitted for the above application, which we received on the 7 November 2016. We accept our apologies for the delay in replying.

We recommend that you should only grant planning permission if you attach the following conditions. These conditions would address significant concerns that we have identified and we would not object provided you attach them to the planning permission.

Summary of Conditions

1. A suitably worded condition is included to ensure that the construction stage does not damage surrounding designated sites their features.
2. A suitably worded condition is included to ensure the preparation of a dormouse mitigation scheme.

3. A suitably worded condition is included to ensure the preparation and implementation of a mitigation scheme for bats.
4. A suitably worded condition is secured to any permission granted to ensure a detailed scheme for new and translocated planting is implemented.
5. A suitably worded condition is secured to any permission granted to ensure a suitable annotated drawing clearly showing extent, including widths, and distribution of all retained and newly created hedgerows and other habitats.
6. A suitably worded condition is secured to any permission granted to ensure a detailed long-term habitat management plan is implemented.

Further details in relation to each condition is given below.

Condition 1: Designed Sites

The construction stage has the potential to impact on the surrounding Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The proposal will involve works on the boundaries of the SSSI, for example it appears from Figure 8.8 of the Environmental Statement (Drawing reference 60654/8.8B – Existing vegetation to be removed) that all or part of a hedgerow that runs adjacent to the Fferm Walters / Walters Farm SSSI will be removed. If the hedgerow on both sides of the stream is removed, we have concerns that the SSSI could be used during construction works and therefore damage the features of the SSSI.

We therefore require a suitably worded condition to be included on any permission your authority is minded to grant to ensure that the proposed development (construction stage) does not damage the SSSI and its features.

We recommend a condition to secure a Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) is attached to any permission granted. Specifically the condition should ensure that the CEMP identifies the SSSIs and reasonable measures are put in place to avoid damage. For example, fencing could be installed on boundaries of the SSSI that are exposed to construction works to avoid the construction phase using the parts of the SSSI, such as for storing materials or vehicles. We are able to advise the applicant on other suitable measures.

Conditions 2 - 3: European Protected Species

We have reviewed submitted Environmental Statement Addendum (prepared by WSP) dated October 2016. We note the principles of the measures outline within the submitted mitigation strategies however we have concerns with some aspects of the mitigation proposals and consider that the strategies need to be developed further to provide greater detail and clarification of the measures proposed.

We therefore advise that it would not be appropriate to implement either the dormouse or bat mitigation strategy in their current forms. As a result we maintain our previous advice that suitable conditions are attached to any permission your authority is minded to grant requiring the preparation and implementation of mitigation schemes for dormice and for bats.

Condition 2:

A condition to ensure the preparation of a dormouse mitigation scheme.

Condition 3:

A condition to ensure the preparation and implementation of a mitigation scheme for bats.

Conditions 4-6: Designated Sites / European Protected Species

Further to our previous advice regarding habitat, we note that no additional information has been provided within the addendum to address our previous concerns regarding ensuring the replacement of suitable habitat corridors. We therefore maintain our previous advice and request the following conditions are included on any permission you are minded to grant.

Condition 3:

Agree in writing before the start of works, a detailed scheme for new and translocated planting, to include extent and location of new planting, species to be planted, size and density of new planting, monitoring and aftercare, including replacement of dead specimens and schedule of works. Scheme to be implemented as agreed.

Condition 4:

Prepare a suitable annotated drawing, to be agreed in writing with the LPA and NRW, clearly showing extent, including widths, and distribution of all retained and newly created hedgerows and other habitats which could be used by dormice. Scheme to be implemented as agreed.

Condition 5:

Prepare a detailed long-term habitat management plan, to be agreed in writing with the LPA and NRW prior to the start of works, ensuring the favourable management of all existing retained and new habitats consistent with the needs of the protected species associated with the development. The plan should include but not exclusively the nature and extent of management operations; appropriate scheduling and timing of activities; proposals for on-going review of management and remedial action to be undertaken where problems are identified by the monitoring scheme. Scheme to be implemented as agreed.

Air Quality

The Addendum includes an Air Quality assessment for Fferm Walters / Walters Farm SSSI but also presents the assessment for Barry Woodlands SSSI for completeness. The overall direction of NOx concentrations and nitrogen deposition with the road changes are lower than the 2013 Baseline. Therefore, on the basis of this assessment we have no objection in respect of air quality impacts from the scheme on the designated sites.

Other Matters

Our comments above only relate specifically to matters that are included on our checklist Natural Resources Wales and Planning Consultations (March 2015) which is published on our website at this link (<https://naturalresources.wales/planning-and-development/planning-and-development/?lang=en>). We have not considered potential effects on other matters and do not rule out the potential for the proposed development to affect other interests, including environmental interests of local importance. The applicant should be advised that, in addition to planning permission, it is their responsibility to ensure that they secure all other permits/consents relevant to their development.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yn gywir / Yours faithfully

Lindy Barratt

Ymgynghorydd Cynllunio Datblygu/ Development Planning Advisor
Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales