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Cefn Dryscoed DAF

Ecological Impact Assessment Report

February 2026

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Cover Photo Source: Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2025

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Executive summary

Mott MacDonald Bentley has been commissioned by Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW, the Applicant) to produce an Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) required to inform the proposed improvement works at Cefn Dryscoed Water Treatment Works (WTW) (the 'Proposed Development').

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) was undertaken in 2024, with additional botanical surveys on 6 June and 14 July 2025. A suite of further surveys for bat, badger (*Meles meles*), barn owl (*Tyto alba*) and dormouse (*Muscardinus avellanarius*) was completed between September 2024 and January 2026, alongside hedgerow assessments.

The site consists primarily of improved pasture fields bordered by hedgerows. Of the habitats present, five are listed on Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act, 2016, one of which is located within the footprint of the Proposed Development, namely, Hedgerows. Two notable vascular plant species were identified adjacent to the Proposed Development, corn-spurrey (*Spergula arvensis*) and climbing corydalis (*Ceratocapnos claviculata*).

Further survey identified four bat species roosting within buildings in Cefn Dryscoed WTW, common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*), soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*), *Myotis* sp. and brown long-eared bat (*Plecotus auritus*). This includes a common pipistrelle maternity roost. Bat activity surveys identified 12 species/species groups of bat using the site to forage and/or commute. An assessment of the importance of the site identified bat roosts of importance from a Site to District level, whilst the bat assemblage as a whole is considered to be of importance at a County to Regional level.

Barn owl are also known to present at the site, alongside a number of other bird species breeding within the existing buildings. The habitats present also provide opportunities for badger, hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*), reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates.

The design of the Proposed Development has been informed by ecological inputs to ensure habitats of highest ecological value are retained as well as reducing the overall extent of habitat loss as a result of the works.

The impact of the Proposed Development on designated sites, habitats and species is assessed within this document. Appropriate recommendations for mitigation and enhancements, in line with local and national policy, include:

- **Licensing:** An NRW licence for the disturbance of roosting bats will be applied for prior to the commencement of works, this will include appropriate mitigation to reduce impacts as far as possible, *i.e.* no works will be carried out during the maternity season.
- **Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP):** All works will be undertaken under a CEMP to include ecological safeguards for badger, reptiles, amphibians, barn owl, breeding birds, bats, notable plant species, invasive plant species and habitats. This will include ecological supervision of works, toolbox talks, sensitive timings, phased vegetation clearance and pollution prevention measures.
- **Ecological compensation and enhancement:** Ecological enhancements to achieve a net benefit for biodiversity are outlined within this report, including but not limited to; grassland management, orchard planting, woodland planting and provision of bat boxes.
- **Landscape and Ecology Management Plan:** A habitat management plan has been produced, including monitoring enhancements for a period of 30 years. The enhancement areas will be safeguarded from future development by DCWW.

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

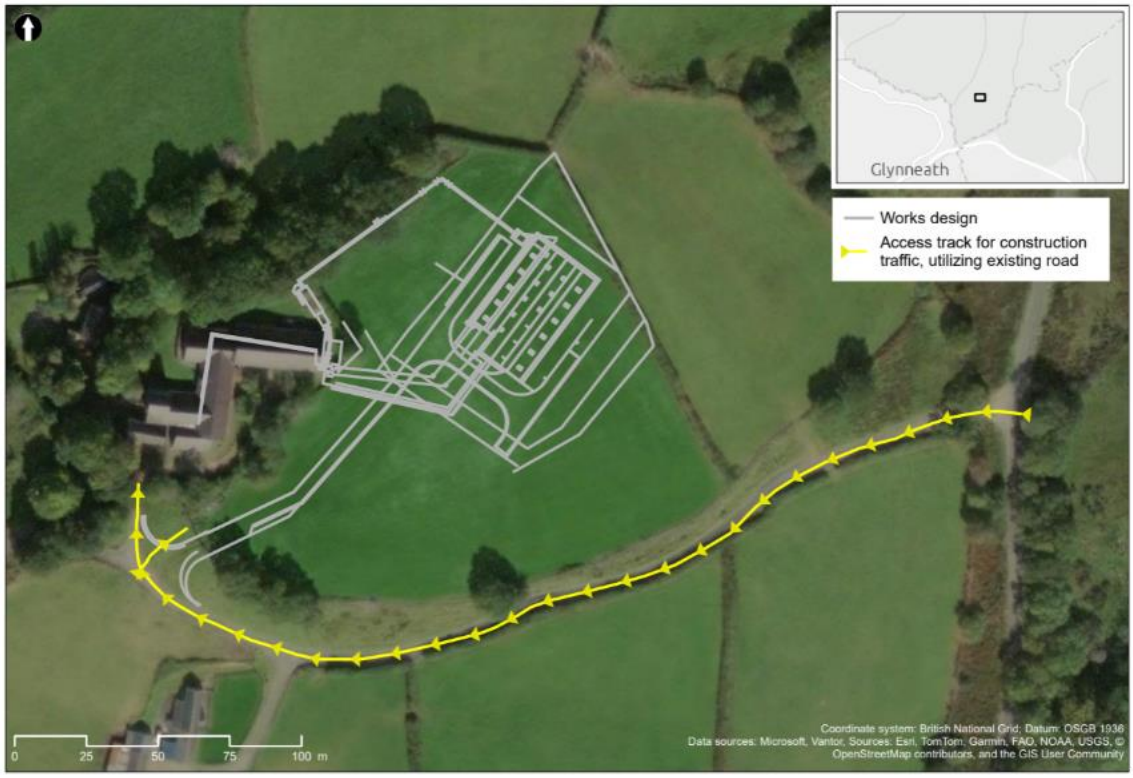
Mott MacDonald Bentley has been commissioned by Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW, the Applicant) to undertake an Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) required to inform the proposed improvement works at Cefn Dryscoed Water Treatment Works (WTW) (the 'Proposed Development').

The proposed works consist of the construction of a new Dissolved Air Floatation (DAF) building to reduce manganese levels and increase water quality at the site. The existing WTW site is located within the Brecon Beacons National Park and consists of a collection of stone buildings built to resemble a farmstead.

A high-level optioneering workshop, including site visit, was undertaken to review a number of potential locations shortlisted by the design team in May 2024. The optioneering workshop included specialists from a number of disciplines, including ecology. As part of this process, a PEA and habitat mapping was undertaken of a wider area in order to identify areas of high ecological value. As a result of this process, areas of irreplaceable peat-forming habitat were scoped out of further consideration. The works have been designed to reduce ecological impacts as far as possible and are mainly confined to an improved pasture field.

The Proposed Development layout is shown within Figure 1.1 below, whilst additional drawings are provided within Appendix A, including the location of temporary site compounds and lighting plans.

Figure 1.1: Proposed Development Layout



Source: Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026

1.2 Site Context and Proposed Works

Cefn Dryscoed WTW is located in a rural setting in the Brecon Beacons National Park, to the north of Pontneddfechan, Neath (National Grid Reference SN 9089 0943). The site is immediately surrounded by pasture fields and hedgerows, with a parcel of ancient woodland to the north and moorland to the north east.

The Proposed Development comprises of the following:

- The construction of a new DAF building, including the installation of three new DAF tanks and flocculators, and other processing and ancillary equipment within the new DAF building.
- Installation of pipelines to connect the new DAF building to the existing WTW and to connect the existing raw water main to the DAF plant. The pipelines will be installed by open-cut trenching with habitat mainly restored once complete, with the exception of re-planting mature tree species directly above the pipeline routes.
- Installation of a new access track to facilitate operational activities of the new DAF building.
- Replacement of existing and installation of new pumping equipment within Cefn Dryscoed WTW.
- Fencing and other soft landscaping.
- Installation of new electrical cabling, distribution boards, PLC and instrumentation (e.g. water quality and turbidity monitors).
- Installation of a new DAF Motor Control Centre (MCC) within the new building.

The lighting plan has been designed with ecological input to reduce impacts to nocturnal species (including bats and barn owl) (see Appendix A). As far as possible, the following principals will be adhered to through the detailed design process, in line with best practice guidance on bats and artificial lighting (ILP, 2023):

- Motion sensors will be used on all external lighting, with the shortest possible timer as allowed by the risk assessment (1 or 2 minute timer).
- External lighting will be directional, facing away from retained hedgerows and tree lines, with hoods and/or cowls installed where required.
- Column heights will be considered to minimise light spill and glare.
- Warm light sources will be used to reduce blue light (2700 Kelvin or lower).
- Peak wavelengths of any lighting installed will be higher than 550nm to avoid lighting components that cause the most disturbance to bats.
- Lighting will be mounted horizontally, with no light output above 90˚and/or no upward tilt.

During the construction phase, a temporary site compound will be installed within the same pasture field, utilising an existing farm track as an access route (see Appendix A for location).

Works are anticipated to span 15 months from July 2027 to September 2028. Working hours are provided within Table 1.1 below.

Table 1.1: Working Hours

Period	March to September	October to February
Monday to Saturday including bank holidays	07:00 to 19:00	07:30 to 18:00
Sunday	07:00 to 18:00	08:00 to 17:00

Source: Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026

1.3 Aims and Objectives

The aim of this assessment is to identify, quantify and evaluate potential adverse and beneficial effects of the Proposed Development on ecological receptors and to outline the proposed mitigation and enhancement requirements.

This EcIA has been prepared in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) 'Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland' (2024a).

The objectives of this assessment are to:

- Collate the ecological baseline information for the Proposed Development and identify important ecological features (including designated sites, habitats and protected/notable fauna and flora species).
- Identify and assess any potential impacts on important ecological features from the construction and operational activities proposed.
- Outline the avoidance measures that have been incorporated into the design of the works.
- Identify any mitigation or compensation measures that are considered necessary to offset potential development impacts (including any licensing requirements for protected species).
- Identify and describe any monitoring requirements to ensure the mitigation and compensation measures proposed are effective.
- Assess the current design of the works against the relevant legislative and planning policy framework.
- Identify opportunities for ecological enhancements, in line with national and local planning policy requirements.

1.4 Quality Assurance and Validity of Report

All ecologists involved in the production of this report are members of the CIEEM and are bound by its code of conduct (CIEEM, 2025). Additionally, this report has been subject to Mott MacDonald Limited's internal quality assurance checks in line with ISO9001:2015.

All surveys and assessments were undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced ecologists as per CIEEMs competency framework (CIEEM, 2024b) and have been undertaken with reference to the recommendations given in BS 42020:2013 Biodiversity: Code of practice for planning and development (British Standards Institute, 2013).

In line with CIEEM (2019) guidance on the lifespan of ecological surveys, and taking into account the habitats present within the survey area, the results of the UK Habitat Classification survey and Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) are considered valid for up to 12 months. Following this, the survey data should be reviewed and, if appropriate, updated to ensure any assessment and mitigation approach remains valid.

2 Legislation and Policy

2.1 Overview

Developers must ensure the construction and operational activities for the Proposed Development comply with national nature conservation legislation and with national and local biodiversity planning policies.

The following legislative and planning policy context has been used to inform the assessment of the relative ecological importance of the survey area, potential constraints to the development and recommendation for enhancements.

2.2 Legislation

The main pieces of legislation regarding the protection of species and habitats in Wales are the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) (henceforth referred to as the '2017 Regulations') and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) ('the 1981 Act'). Species-specific legislation for certain groups (i.e. badger (*Meles meles*)) is also in place and is highlighted within this report were relevant. These pieces of legislation provide a range of protection for many species and also create protected sites (including Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)).

Activities which have the potential to harm protected species must be appropriately considered and mitigated, as must those with the potential to impact protected sites. In some instances, activities occurring some distance from a designated site have the potential to cause adverse effects and must be considered within an impact assessment.

Invasive non-native species are regulated via a combination of the Invasive Alien Species (Permitting and Enforcement) Order 2019 (henceforth referred to as 'the 2019 Order') and Section 14/Schedule 9 of the 1981 Act.

Under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 ('the 2016 Act'), Local Authorities and public bodies have a statutory duty 'to seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in Wales' when carrying out their normal functions. Section 7 of the 2016 Act contains a list of species and habitats of 'principal importance to the conservation of biodiversity in Wales' (also referred to as 'Priority Habitats or Species'), to act as an aid to guide public bodies in implementing their duty. In order to do this, the Local Authority must consider the impact of the proposed works on protected habitats and species and must regard Priority Habitats and/or Species as a material consideration throughout the planning process.

2.3 Planning Policy

2.3.1 National Policy

In terms of planning policy, under Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales (PPW) 2024, development proposals must provide a net benefit for biodiversity and should not cause significant loss of habitats and/or species. Therefore, development proposals must employ a Step-wise Approach in decision making (avoid, minimise, mitigate/restore, compensate on-site and then compensate off-site, as well as providing enhancements at every step). This places a requirement on a development to evidence consideration of biodiversity and the Step-wise Approach in decision making. The Step-wise Approach is shown within Figure 2.1 below.

Figure 2.1: Summary of Step-Wise Approach

Source: Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026; Welsh Government, 2024

Application of the Step-wise Approach should be evidenced within a Green Infrastructure Statement for the Scheme, which will need to:

- Support the conservation of native habitats and species, thus conserving biodiversity at a landscape scale and contributing to international responsibilities and obligations.
- Ensure that statutory and non-statutory designated sites are properly protected and managed.
- Safeguard protected and/or priority habitats and species from impacts which directly affect their nature conservation interests, compromise the resilience of ecological networks or the components which underpin them, such as water and soil, including peat deposits.
- Secure enhancement of, and improvements to, ecosystem resilience by improving diversity, extent, condition, connectivity and adaptability of ecological networks (otherwise known as the DECCA framework).

A particular weight is placed on the importance of safeguarding hedgerows, woodland and trees under PPW. Loss of these features is only permitted where the development would achieve significant and clearly defined public benefits, in which circumstance compensatory planting is required at a ratio of 3:1 for trees lost or, for woodland planting, at a density of 1600 trees per hectare for broadleaves and 2500 trees per hectare for conifers. Additionally, any development within the boundary of a designated site is considered unacceptable and will only be granted planning permission in exceptional circumstances.

2.3.2 Local Policy

At a local level, planning policies are set out within ‘Brecon Beacons National Park Local Development Plan’ (Adopted 2013), whilst supplementary information is set out within ‘Brecon Beacons National Park Authorities – Supplementary Planning Guidance Biodiversity and Development’ (2016). The policies relevant to ecology (policies 3 to 9) are described in full within Appendix B, but can be broadly summarised as follows:

Development proposals will be required to promote the resilience of ecosystems. In particular, proposals will be required to maintain and enhance biodiversity interests. Proposals for development likely to have an adverse effect either directly and indirectly on the conservation

value of: internationally, nationally, or locally designated sites, Priority Habitats or protected species will only be permitted where it is demonstrated that:

- There is no suitable alternative to the proposed development.
- The need for the development clearly outweighs the conservation value of the site.
- The development maintains and where possible enhances biodiversity interests.
- The impacts of the development can be satisfactorily mitigated, appropriate compensatory measures are put in place, and the area is acceptably managed through future management regimes.
- Adverse impacts on nature conservation features can be avoided.

3 Methodology

3.1 Zone of Influence

The current guidance on ecological impact assessments (CIEEM, 2024a) recommends that all ecological features that occur within a 'Zone of Influence' for a proposed development are investigated.

The ZoI includes:

- Areas directly within the land take for the Proposed Development and any associated access routes.
- Areas which will be temporarily affected during construction.
- Areas likely to be impacted by hydrological disruption.
- Areas where there is a risk of pollution and noise disturbance during construction and/or operation.

The ZoI is variable depending on the nature of the construction activities and the ecological receptors affected. For this assessment the zones used have been defined in Table 3.1 below.

Table 3.1: Zone of Influence for this Assessment

Ecological Feature	Zone of Influence
Internationally designated sites for bats, birds, otter (*Lutra lutra*), marsh fritillary (*Euphydryas aurinia*) and fish[1]	Within 10.0km of the Proposed Development
Locally, Nationally and Internationally designated site for all species and/or habitats	Within 2.0km of the Proposed Development
Protected species records	Within 2.0km of the Proposed Development
Habitats and Protected species evidence	Within the footprint of the Proposed Development, plus a species-specific survey buffer (see Section 3.4)[2]

Source: Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026

3.2 Desk Study

An initial desk study was undertaken in 2025 and was reported within the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal Report (PEAR), to determine the presence of any designated nature conservation sites and protected or notable species within the ZoI of the Scheme (Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026a). To ensure the validity of the data, only records collected within the last 10 years (2015 - 2025) were considered. Where relevant, a search of historic records was undertaken and is stated within the relevant results sections (*i.e.* where no records of a particular species was returned within the last 10 years, and it is considered likely due to a lack of survey effort within the area). Raw data is available on request.

Information to inform the desk study was obtained from the following sources:

- Bat survey reports produced by Arcadis and Apem of previous survey work undertaken (Arcadis, 2021 and Apem Limited, 2018).

[1] In the case of otter and fish, where a hydrological connection exists.

[2] For certain species/species groups consideration of areas outside of the footprint of the Proposed Development is required, in line with the relevant best practice guidelines (*i.e.* badger).

- Biodiversity Information Service for Powys & Brecon Beacons National Park (BIS)[3].
- Multi Agency Geographical Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) (https://magic.defra.gov.uk).
- Natural Resources Wales (NRW) (https://naturalresources.wales).
- Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) (https://jncc.gov.uk/).
- Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland (BSBI) (http://bsbi.org).
- Brecknockshire Rare Plant Register (BRPR) (Crellin, 2020).

3.3 Habitats and Invasive Plants

As part of the PEAR, a field survey was undertaken by an experienced FISC[4] Level 4 surveyor to map the habitats within the ZoI (Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026a). The initial field survey was undertaken on 22 May, with an additional visit on 27 September 2024. These surveys covered a wider area to inform the design of the works. An additional botanical survey was carried out on 6 June and 14 July 2025 (including quadrats of all grasslands to be impacted by the Proposed Development). All habitats within the defined ZoI were mapped in accordance with the UK Habitat Classification User Manual (Version 2) (UKHab Ltd, 2023).

The locations of any protected and/or notable vascular plant species were also recorded in target note form.

3.4 Protected and Notable Species

As part of the PEAR, an assessment was undertaken of the likely presence or absence of protected and/or notable species within the ZoI, and, where applicable, additional survey work was recommended. This was based on the known distribution of species, habitats and/or direct evidence such as field signs or observations.

Further species-specific survey was undertaken throughout 2025. These surveys covered a wider area to inform the design of the Proposed Development. All survey and assessment work was carried out in line with the relevant species-specific best practice guidance.

A summary of the survey work undertaken and relevant methodologies used is included within Table 3.2 below.

Table 3.2: Summary of Survey Work Undertaken

Species	Survey	Survey Timings	Survey Guidance
Hazel Dormouse	Habitat suitability assessment The assessment covered a wider area to inform the works design.	21 May 2025	Wells, D., Chanin, P. & Gubert, L. (2025). Hazel Dormouse Mitigation Handbook.
	Presence/likely absence surveys completed between April and October, consisting of 7 nest tube/box checks. The surveys covered a wider area to inform the works design.	16 April to 28 October 2025	
Badger	Presence/likely absence field surveys were undertaken within at least 30m. The initial survey covered a wider area to inform the works design.	27 March 2025 Entire survey area 19 January 2026 WTW and Proposed Development footprint	Harris *et al.*, 1989 and The Badger Trust, 2023

[3] Biological records were obtained in February 2025. The reference numbers are included within Section 6.

[4] Field Identification Skills Certificate (FISC).

Species	Survey	Survey Timings	Survey Guidance
Barn Owl	Three stage field surveys including nest box checks within at least 30m. The initial surveys covered a wider area to inform the works design.	Stage 1, 2 and 3 surveys: 17 and 18 March 2025 Additional box checks: 22 October 2025 and 11 December 2025	Shawyer, C. R. (2012). Barn Owl Tyto alba Survey Methodology and Techniques for use in Ecological Assessment: Developing Best Practice in Survey and Reporting.
Bats	Preliminary Roost Assessments of all structures within 30m.	27 September 2024	Collins, J. (ed.) (2023) Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines
	Ground Level Tree Assessments (GLTAs) of all trees within 30m.	11 March 2025	
	Presence/likely absence surveys of all trees and buildings with potential to support roosting bats. Emergence surveys and/or aerial tree climbing, as applicable.	7 May to 14 August 2025	
	Hibernation Surveys of buildings using Full spectrum automated bat detectors.	17 February to 27 March 2025	
	Bat activity surveys of linear features suitable for foraging and/or commuting bats. Both manual and automated surveys were carried out of a wider area to inform the works design.	3 April to 28 October 2025	
Hedgerows	Hedgerow assessments in line with the Wildlife and Landscape criteria of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. The assessments covered a wider area to inform the works design.	21 May 2025	Defra, 2007 The hedgerow Survey Handbook

Source: Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026

Detailed survey methodologies for each species/species group are included within the associated report, as follows:

- Hazel Dormouse Survey Report (Report Reference: B17545-123532-14-XX-DR-NA-EI0055, Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026b).
- Badger Survey Report (Report Reference: B17545-123532-14-XX-DR-NA-EI0050, Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026c).
- Barn Owl Survey Report (Report Reference: B17545-123532-14-XX-RP-NA-EI-0082, Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026d).
- Bat Survey Report (Report Reference: 17545-123532-14-XX-AS-NA-EI0011, Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026e).
- Hedgerow Survey Report (Report Reference: B17545-123532-14-XX-AS-NA-EI0057, Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026f).

3.5 Survey Limitations

Limitations of the survey work are detailed within individual habitat and species reports as mentioned above. Where survey work was constrained by factors such as access and weather, this has been addressed during the survey windows and/or has been taken into consideration during the interpretation of the results. In terms of more general constraints of relevance to this assessment:

- Biological records obtained from third parties and presented in the desk study do not represent a full and complete species list for the area. The records are mostly provided by individuals on an *ad-hoc* basis, often meaning there are areas of deficiency in the data. If species records are not present it may be as a result of the area being under surveyed and as such no records have been returned, lack of species should therefore not be disregarded.
- Ecological surveys are limited to factors which affect the presence of plants and animals, such as time of year, migration patterns and behaviour. With a single survey visit it is possible that certain species may have been overlooked or under-recorded during the assessment as optimal survey periods vary from species to species.

On this basis, the overall survey work is considered valid and provides appropriate information to consider the impacts on the habitats and species present.

3.6 Assessment Methodology

An assessment of the anticipated impacts for each ecological receptor that occurs within the defined ZoI has been undertaken with reference to CIEEMs Guideline for Ecological Impact Assessment (CIEEM, 2024a). These guidelines set out a process of identifying the value of an ecological receptor and characterising the predicted impacts on that receptor from the Proposed Development. The criteria used to determine the importance of the ecological receptors present, and in determining the significance of the anticipated impacts, are detailed within the following sections.

3.6.1 Assessment of Importance

A Geographic Frame of Reference was adopted to characterise the conservation importance of identified ecological receptors at a geographic scale, from international to local, in line with CIEEM's guidance on the identification of important ecological features (CIEEM, 2024a). An additional level of conservation importance was added for features considered to be of below local level, these were referred to in this report as being of "Site" conservation importance. Examples of features classified at this level are common, ubiquitous and easily re-creatable habitats such as improved grasslands, certain open vegetation habitats and stands of species-poor scrub.

The Geographic Frame of Reference used within this report is defined within Table 3.3 below.

Table 3.3: Geographic Frame of Reference

Scale	Description
International	Designated sites, habitats or species that are of conservation importance at an international level. Considered to be habitats or species that are rare within Europe and/or endemic to Great Britain (*i.e.* Annex 1 Habitats), or sites designated at an international level (SACs).
Multinational (UK)	Designated sites, habitats or species that are of conservation importance within the UK. Considered to be habitats or species that are rare or declining across the UK as a whole, and/or are at the edge of their range (*i.e.* species listed on the red list for Great Britain). Or sites designated at a UK level (SSSIs).
National (Wales)	Habitats or species that are of conservation importance within Wales (*i.e.* species listed on the red list for Wales or Priority Habitats or Species listed on Section 7, that are rare within Wales).
County	Designated sites, habitats or species that are of conservation importance at a county level, i.e. Brecon Beacons, including SINCs.
Local	Habitats or species that are considered of conservation importance at a local level based on their status, distribution and/or population size.
Site	Ubiquitous/ widespread habitats or species that are easily re-creatable and are considered of negligible botanical importance.

Scale	Description
Negligible	Areas with no ecological value, such as hardstanding or areas considered unsuitable for a particular species.

Source: Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026; with reference to CIEEM, 2024a

3.6.2 Impact Assessment

In order to assess the significance of any potential adverse or beneficial effects of the Proposed Development on the ecological receptors that occur within the ZoI, consideration has been given to the following factors: extent, magnitude, duration, frequency and timing, reversibility and the cumulation of all anticipated impacts when considered together.

In line with CIEEM (2024a), a distinction is also recognised between:

- **Habitats –** where effects on extent, structure and function of the habitat, as well as its distribution and species composition, need to be considered.
- **Species –** where effects on abundance and distribution of that species need to be considered.

4 Ecological Baseline

4.1 Summary of Ecological Baseline

A review of the PEAR and species-specific survey reports identified a number of ecological receptors that could be impacted by the Proposed Development. A summary of the survey and assessment results for these receptors is provided throughout the following Sections.

4.1.1 Statutory Designated Sites

Five statutory designated sites were identified within 2.0km of the Proposed Development, consisting of: one Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Coedydd Nedd a Mellte; and four Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). In addition, one SAC designated for the presence of the butterfly species; marsh fritillary (*Euphydryas aurini)* (listed on Schedule 5 of the 1981 Act), was returned within 10km of the Proposed Development. A description of each statutory designated site is provided within Table 4.1 below whilst their locations are shown within Appendix C.

Table 4.1: Statutory Designated Sites within 2.0km

Name	Status	Description	Approximate Distance and Direction
Coedydd Nedd a Mellte	SAC	The Annex I habitat 'H91A0 Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles' is the primary reason for the selection of this site. Coedydd Nedd a Mellte is a very large and diverse example of old sessile oak (*Quercus petraea*) wood in south Wales. The woods extend along a series of deeply incised valleys and ravines and contain complex mosaics of sessile oak woodland, ash (*Fraxinus excelsior)* woodland (some of which is comparable to the Annex I habitat type 'H9180 *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines'), and transitions to lowland woodland types. The whole site is biologically rich, with many woodland plant communities represented and rich bryophyte and lichen assemblages. Notable higher plant species include wood fescue (*Festuca altissima*) and the ferns hay-scented buckler-fern (*Dryopteris aemula)*, Tunbridge filmy-fern (*Hymenophyllum tunbrigense*) and green spleenwort *(Asplenium viride)*.	0.47km to the west and 0.83km to the east
Dyffrynoedd Nedd a Mellte a Moel Penderyn	SSSI	Dyffrynnoedd Nedd a Mellte, a Moel Penderyn is of special interest for its extensive and diverse semi-natural woodland, important populations of several flowering plants and outstanding assemblages of mosses, liverworts and lichens. This site supports one of the most extensive and diverse areas of semi-natural woodland in Wales. The overall botanical diversity is outstanding, with more than 600 species of plant recorded at the site. This includes a very large proportion of the bryophyte flora of mid and south Wales. The high humidity of much of the woodland has a strong influence on its botanical diversity. The fauna of the valleys is well developed and includes birds such as breeding dipper (*Cinclus cinclus*), grey wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*), goosander (*Mergus merganser*), pied flycatcher (*Ficedula hypoleuca*), redstart (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*), wood warbler (*Phylloscopus sibilatrix*), woodcock (*Scolopax rusticola*), buzzard (*Buteo buteo*) and sparrowhawk (*Accipiter nisus*).	0.26km to the north west
Caeau Nant y Llechau	SSSI	This is the largest area of traditional unimproved hay meadow known in Brecknock. The collection of gently sloping south-east facing fields on the upper valley side of the Nedd support a wealth of plant species. Developed on boulder clay overlying millstone grit, flushed in part by springs and drained by a number of well wooded streams,	0.74 to the north west

Name	Status	Description	Approximate Distance and Direction
		the varying topography is reflected in the diverse flora, with over 110 species of higher plants recorded from the grassland areas.	
Bryn-bwch	SSSI	Bryn-bwch is of special interest for its extensive area of fen-meadow, with associated mire, wet heath and wet woodland communities. The fen-meadow community, which is characterised by the presence of meadow thistle (*Cirsium dissectum*), is a scarce and localised vegetation type in England and Wales. The areas of fen-meadow range from short, well grazed and sedgy swards to tall purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*) tussocky swards. Scattered common butterwort (*Pinguicula vulgaris*) and abundant flea sedge (*Carex pulicari*) are present. Within the mire vegetation there are patches of wet heath dominated by deergrass (*Muhlenbergia rigens*) and the bog moss *Sphagnum papillosum*. The site has several well-defined flushes where bog mosses (*Sphagnum* sp.) are dominant. The mire grades into grassland dominated by sheep's-fescue (*Festuca ovina*) and common bent (*Agrostis capillaris*) on the drier ground. Stands of wet alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) and alder/ash woodland are present along with dry woodland containing old sessile oaks close to Clyn-gwyn farmhouse.	1.1km to the north east
Gweunydd Dyffryn Nedd	SSSI	Gweunydd Dyffryn Nedd is of special interest for its extensive areas of damp pasture and wet heath, including a type of fen meadow vegetation that has a restricted distribution in England and Wales. The local geology supports seasonally waterlogged soils, with extensive accumulations of surface peat in places. The resultant variation in soil condition has allowed a variety of plant communities to develop. Fen meadow is widely distributed throughout the site. It is characterised by purple moor-grass and meadow thistle, supporting one of the largest populations of meadow thistle in Brecknock. Further types of purple moor-grass dominated vegetation occur throughout the site, supporting such species as tormentil (*Potentilla erecta*), sweet vernal-grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum)*, bent sp. (*Agrostis* sp.) and mat-grass (*Nardus stricta*). Around the margins of the site, the pasture grades into woodland dominated by either sessile oak or alder, over a grassy field layer. Additional interest is provided by small neutral flushes and patches of scrub.	1.2km to the north
Blaen Cynon	SAC	Blaen Cynon contains an extensive complex of damp pastures and heaths supporting the largest metapopulation of marsh fritillary on the southern edge of the Bannau Brycheiniog National Park.	3.64km to the south west

Source: Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026

4.1.2 Non-statutory Designated Sites

No non-statutory designated sites were identified within 2.0km of the Proposed Development.

4.1.3 Habitats

A brief description of the habitats likely to be impacted by the Proposed Development is provided within Table 4.2 below, whilst a map of the habitats is provided within Appendix D.

The habitats described below have been listed in order of their Primary Habitat Codes rather than their abundance or assessed importance. A full description of each habitat type, associated species lists and photographs are included within the PEAR (Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026a).

Table 4.2: Description of Habitats

UKHab Code	Habitat Type	Description	Location
g1a6	Other lowland dry acid grassland	An acid grassland road verge alongside the existing access track to Cefn Dryscoed WTW. Ant hills and pignut (*Conopodium majus*) were present, both of which can be indicators of ancient grassland. A number of grass species were present, dominated by sweet vernal-grass with frequent red fescue (*Festuca rubra*). Other less frequent grass species included crested dog's-tail (*Cynosurus cristatus*), sheep's fescue (*Festuca ovina*) and Yorkshire-fog (*Holcus lanatus*). Five acid indicator species were recorded: tormentil, sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*), heath bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*), pignut and heath speedwell (*Veronica officinalis*). Springy turf-moss (*Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*) was also frequent. Herbs and sedges accounted for more than 30% cover, with less than 10% cover of white clover (*Trifolium repens*). An average of 10 species per m^2 were recorded, although species diversity varied throughout the patchy sward with up to 13 species recorded (see PEAR for quadrat data). Species typical of nutrient enrichment are encroaching into the sward, likely due to nutrient run-off from the adjacent pasture field and farm track (*i.e.* white clover and creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*)).	Adjacent to the construction access track
g3c	Other neutral grassland	Areas of regularly mown, short-sword grassland are present within Cefn Dryscoed WTW. An average of 11 species were recorded per m^2 with more than 20% cover of herbs and less than 30% cover of white clover and/or perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*) (see PEAR for quadrat data). Yorkshire-fog and bent sp. (*Agrostis* sp.) were frequent alongside springy turf-moss. Herbs included common bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), common mouse-ear (*Cerastium fontanum*), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), red clover (*Trifolium pratense*), selfheal (*Prunella vulgaris*) and daisy (*Bellis perennis*).	Adjacent to the Proposed Development
g3c6	*Lolium-cynosurus* neutral grassland	An area of semi-improved grassland is present along the verge of the existing access track to the WTW site. The grassland is also located around an existing field gate to a pasture field. Grass species included Yorkshire-fog, common bent, sweet vernal-grass and red fescue. Herbs and sedges accounted for over 20% of the total cover, consisting of species such as creeping buttercup, common mouse-ear and white clover. Species typical of enriched areas were present, such as creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), likely due to run-off from the adjacent access track and pasture field. Species diversity varied from 9 species per m2 to 14 species squared across two quadrats (see PEAR for quadrat data).	Within the footprint of the Proposed Development.
g4	Modified grassland	A number of improved pasture fields are present, with the footprint of the Proposed Development consisting primarily of this grassland type. The grasslands were dominated by palatable grass species such as Timothy (*Phleum pratense*), perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*), Yorkshire-fog and annual meadow-grass (*Poa annua*) and were species-poor with less than nine species recorded within $1m^2$. Forbs included broad-leaved dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*), common mouse-ear (*Cerastium fontanum*), common sorrel, creeping buttercup and white clover.	Within the footprint of the Proposed Development.
w	Broadleaved and mixed woodland	A line of broadleaved trees was present immediately adjacent to Cefn Dryscoed WTW. Species such as oak	Adjacent to the construction access track

UKHab Code	Habitat Type	Description	Location
		(*Quercus* sp.) sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) were present.	
w1f7	Other lowland mixed deciduous woodland	A parcel of semi-natural oak sp. woodland was present adjacent to the Proposed Development. The canopy was dominated by oak sp. with rare sycamore and downy birch (*Betula pubescens*). A sparse understorey was present with occasional hazel (*Corylus avellana*). The ground flora was dominated by grass species in the north of the parcel, with frequent cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*) and bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*), whilst enchanter's-nightshade (*Circaea lutetiana*), lady-fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*) and common nettle (*Urtica dioica*) were occasional to the south.	Adjacent to the Proposed Development
h1b6	Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath – upland (H4010)	A large area of heathland was present to the east of the existing farm track. The habitat is present across common land (above the line of agricultural improvement, approximately 250m above sea-level). The area has likely been subject to grazing in the past with frequent low-growing heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) and abundant purple moor-grass. Peatland indicator species were present in the form of *Sphagnum* mosses, including cow-horn bog-moss (*Sphagnum auriculatum*), acute-leaved bog-moss (*Sphagnum capillifolium*) and fringed bog-moss (*Sphagnum fimbriatum*). Other heathland species recorded include heath-grass (*Danthonia decumbens*), heath rush (*Juncus squarrosus*) and heath wood-rush (*Luzula multiflora*), whilst species indicative of wet conditions included marsh thistle (*Cirsium palustre*) and cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*). This habitat type typically occurs where peat layers are less than 50cm deep, however an assessment of the depth of the peat layers are considered outside of the scope of this report. Species indicative of deep peat such as bog asphodel (*Narthecium ossifragum*) were noticeably absent, whilst *Sphagnum* sp. were occasional throughout and as such, this habitat type is considered to fulfil the criteria for wet heathland as opposed to blanket bog.	Adjacent to the construction access track
h2a5	Species-rich native hedgerow	A number of native, species-rich hedgerows are present both adjacent to the Proposed Development and existing farm track, and within the footprint of the works. All of which consisted of at least 80% native species with over 4 woody species recorded within a 30m section. Woody species included blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), hazel, ash, field maple (*Acer campestre*) and elder (*Sambucus nigra*). Ground flora species included herb-Robert (*Geranium robertianum*), male-fern, foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*), bluebell and common ivy (*Hedera helix*).	Within the footprint of the Proposed Development.
h3	Dense scrub	A small area of planted, dense, scrub is present within the existing WTW site, dominated by red-osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*) with a single ash tree.	Adjacent to the Proposed Development.
f2b	Purple moor-grass and rush pastures	An area of rush pasture is present on common land, dominated by soft rush, with occasional sharp-flowered rush, marsh thistle and creeping bent. Lesser spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula*) and purple moor-grass were rare. The habitat grades into heathland to the north and was surveyed outside of the optimal botanical survey season. Although the sward appeared species-poor at the time of survey, the habitat may support additional species not recorded at the time of survey and may fulfil the criteria for this Priority Habitat type.	Adjacent to the construction access track

UKHab Code	Habitat Type	Description	Location
u1b5	Buildings	A number of stone buildings with slate tiled roofs are present within the existing WTW. Historically the buildings were used as a farmhouse and were modified and extended to accommodate a WTW.	Within the footprint of the Proposed Development.

Source: Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026

4.1.4 Protected and Notable Flora and Fauna Species

A summary of the further survey results is provided with Table 4.3 below, by species/species group.

Table 4.3: Summary of Further Survey Results

Species	Receptor/Location	Summary
Hazel Dormouse	None Identified	The hedgerows within the survey area were assessed as being of Good quality for dormouse. No evidence of dormouse was recorded during the presence/likely absence surveys, with no records of the species returned during the desk study. Dormouse are considered likely absent from the site. Incidental records of wood mouse (*Apodemus sylvaticus*) and nesting birds were recorded during the surveys.
Badger	None Identified	No evidence of badger was recorded during the presence/likely absence surveys. The desk study returned one record of badger, this being 1.9km to the south of the Proposed Development. Incidental evidence of other mammal species was recorded during the presence/likely absence survey, including evidence of mole hills and mammal pathways.
Barn Owl	Barn owl are known to be using the site for foraging and have previously bred in a nest box in Cefn Dryscoed WTW.	One nest box was identified attached to the Lime Silo building within Cefn Dryscoed WTW. The nest box was precautionarily treated as an Occupied Breeding Site (OBS) due to the presence of fresh pellets and whitewashing. Barn owl are known to have bred within the box for a number of years, with site personnel reporting chicks falling from the box in previous seasons. It is considered likely that the combination of a build-up of pellets elevating the nesting position above the entrance and the sub-optimal box type has led to chicks falling from the box. Due to the degraded condition of the nest box within the WTW, a licence was obtained from NRW to remove the box both due to the health and safety risk the box posed to site personnel (located 13m high above a pedestrian walkway), and to benefit the species (licence to take a nest for the purpose of conservation and preserving public safety, licence number: S095887/1). Two new nest boxes were installed prior to the removal of the box, one of which is located on the northern boundary of the WTW site. Five other bird species, including house martin (*Delichon urbicum*), were identified nesting within the survey area, including within buildings in the WTW site.
Bats	Bat roosts were identified within two of the existing buildings, the Main Building and the Centrifuge building. Activity surveys recorded 12 species/species groups using the site to forage/commute.	The existing buildings within Cefn Dryscoed WTW support the following four species/species groups of roosting bat: common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*), soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*) brown long-eared bat (*Plecotus auritus*) and Myotis sp. This includes maternity, hibernation and day roosts within the Main building, which are located within 30m of the Proposed Development. In addition, the Centrifuge building was also found to support a common pipistrelle satellite roost, forming part of the maternity colony using the site. Whilst this building is over 30m away from the Proposed Development, it forms an important part of the roost resource for the species using the site. The hedgerows, woodland and tree lines immediately adjacent to the Proposed Development provide suitable habitat for a wide range of bat species. Bat activity surveys recorded 12 species/species groups, with high levels of activity recorded within Cefn Dryscoed WTW. Low levels of activity were recorded along a hedgerow forming the eastern boundary of the Proposed Development. Species

Species	Receptor/Location	Summary
		recorded included four species classified as 'Rarer' or 'Rarest' in line with the bat mitigation guidelines: greater horseshoe bat, lesser horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*), Nathusius' pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus nathusii*) and serotine (*Eptesicus serotinus*).
Invasive Species	Himalayan Balsam *(Impatiens glandulifera)* within Cefn Dryscoed WTW	One invasive plant species listed on Schedule 2 of the 2019 Order was recorded within Cefn Dryscoed WTW during the survey work, Himalayan Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*).
Vascular Plants	Bluebell *(Hyacinthoides non-scripta*), corn-spurrey and climbing corydalis. All are located adjacent to the Proposed Development.	Two notable plant species, corn-spurrey (*Spergula arvensis*) and climbing corydalis (*Ceratocapnos claviculata*) were recorded adjacent to the Proposed Development. Corn-spurrey is listed as Near Threatened on the Welsh Red-List, Vulnerable on the Red-List for the UK and is listed as Near Locally Scarce on the BRPR. Climbing corydalis is included on the list of rare, scarce and declining species in south Wales, whilst this record of the species is the first within the 10km square, the nearest record of the species is in Hirwaun near Merthyr Tydfil. One protected vascular plant species was recorded within woodland and hedgerows, bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*), which is listed on Schedule 8 of the 1981 Act. The species is protected against sale only but has been included for completeness.
Hedgerows	Five hedgerows were identified as 'Important' under the 1997 regulations.	A total of five hedgerows were identified as 'important' in line with the 1997 Regulations, this included hedgerows in the wider area that were assessed to inform the works design. One hedgerow classified as 'important' falls within the footprint of the Proposed Development, whilst a further three are located immediately adjacent to the construction access track.

Source: Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026

4.2 Importance of Ecological Receptors

Based on the current works design, the results of the species-specific survey work and identification of impact pathways laid out within the PEAR, the Proposed Development has the potential to impact the ecological receptors included within Table 4.4 below.

The importance of each receptor has been assessed and assigned to a geographic scale in line with Section 3.6.

Table 4.4: Valuation of Protected and/or Notable Species

Feature	Importance	Interpretation
Designated Sites		
Coedydd Nedd a Mellte SAC	International (European)	This statutory designated site is considered to of international importance in line with its designation.
Habitats		
Priority Habitat -h2a5 Native Hedgerow	County	Native hedgerows are included under boundary and linear features (hedgerows) as a Section 7 Priority Habitat. Based on the distribution of this habitat type within the region, it is considered to be of importance at a County level, rather than at a National (Wales) level.
Priority Habitat – g1a6 Lowland dry acid grassland	County	This habitat type fulfils the criteria for the associated Section 7 Priority Habitat type. Based on the condition of the grassland and distribution of this habitat type within the region, it is considered to be of importance at a County level, rather than at a National (Wales) level.
Priority Habitat - w1f7 Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	National (Wales)	The parcel of oak woodland immediately adjacent to the existing WTW is considered to meet the criteria for the Section 7 Priority Habitat type 'Lowland mixed deciduous woodland' and is therefore considered to be of importance at a National (Wales) level.
Priority Habitat - f2b purple moor grass and rush pastures	National	The areas of rush pasture were surveyed outside of the optimal botanical survey season and may fulfil the criteria for

Feature	Importance	Interpretation
	(Wales)	the Section 7 Priority Habitat type 'Purple moor grass and rush pastures', as such, is considered to be of importance at a National (Wales) level.
Priority Habitat - h1b6 wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, upland (H4010)	International (European)	The areas of wet heathland are considered to fulfil the criteria for the Section 7 Priority Habitat type 'Upland heathland' and are considered likely to fulfil the criteria for the Annex I Habitat type 'H4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix* (Upland)'. This habitat type is therefore considered to be of international importance.
Other habitats	Site	All other habitat types are considered to be of importance at a Site level.
Protected and/or Notable Species		
Breeding Birds	Local	The woodland, hedgerows, scrub and buildings all provide suitable nesting and/or foraging opportunities for breeding birds, both within and immediately adjacent to the Proposed Development. Five species were identified nesting within the existing WTW buildings, whilst barn owl is also known to be present at the site. Based on the assemblage of species known to be present and the habitat types, the site is considered to be of Local importance for breeding birds.
Bats	County to Regional	The existing buildings within Cefn Dryscoed WTW were found to support four species/species groups of roosting bats: common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, brown long-eared and *Myotis* sp. The individual roosts are considered to be of importance from a Site to District level in line with the Bat Mitigation Guidelines (see bat survey report; Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026e). However, the Main Building within Cefn Dryscoed WTW supports a common pipistrelle maternity roost with a peak count of 69. As such, the site also meets the criteria for SINC classification in south Wales (any common pipistrelle maternity roosts that support more than 50 bats; The South Wales Wildlife Sites Partnership, 2004), making it of importance at a County level. An assessment has also been undertaken of the bat assemblage as a whole, including consideration of the species identified as foraging and/or commuting at the site. A score of 26 was achieved, making the site of Regional importance (see section 4.2.1 and table 4.5 below).
Badger	Site	The hedgerow, scrub and woodland habitats within and immediately adjacent to the Proposed Development may provide suitable habitat for sett creation. No evidence of badger was recorded during the survey work undertaken. However, one record of badger was returned during the desk study. The grassland habitats within the footprint of the Proposed Development provide suitable habitat for foraging and commuting should badger be present locally.
Hazel dormouse	Negligible	No evidence of dormouse was recorded during the survey work undertaken. This species is considered likely absent.
European hedgehog	Site	The scrub, hedgerow and grassland habitats within the footprint of the Proposed Development provide suitable habitat for European hedgehogs.
Other Mammals	Site	The scrub, hedgerow, woodland and grassland habitats all provide suitable habitat for burrow/den creation for a wide range of mammal species, both within and immediately adjacent to the Proposed Development. Mammal evidence has been identified in the form of mole hills whilst records of stoat and weasel were returned during the desk study.
Reptiles	Site	Modified and semi-improved neutral grassland, scrub and hedgerow habitats within the footprint of the Proposed Development provide suitable habitat for common reptile

Feature	Importance	Interpretation
		species. Records of common lizard and slow worm were returned within 2.0km during the desk study. Based on the habitats present, the site Is considered to be of importance at a Site level for reptiles.
Amphibians	Site	Suitable habitat for common amphibians is present within the footprint of the Proposed Development in the form of modified and semi-improved neutral grassland, hedgerows and scrub. Records of three common and widespread amphibian species were returned during the desk study, common frog, common toad and palmate newt. Based on the habitats present and species returned during the desk study, the site is considered to be of importance at a Site level for amphibians.
Invertebrates	Local	Suitable habitat for terrestrial invertebrates is present within the footprint of the Proposed Development in the form of modified and semi-improved neutral grassland, hedgerows and scrub. These common and widespread habitats are likely to support a range of common invertebrate species. Based on the habitats present and species returned during the desk study, the site is considered to be of importance at a Site level for invertebrates (see Appendix E for desk study results).
Vascular Plants	Local	Two notable vascular plant species were identified immediately adjacent to the Proposed Development, corn-spurrey and climbing corydalis. Based on the known distribution and population sizes of both species, the populations are considered to be of importance at a Local level.
Invasive Species	Negligible	One invasive species listed on either Schedule 9 of the 1981 Act or Schedule 2 of the 2019 Order was recorded within the survey area, Himalayan balsam.

Source: Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026

4.2.1 Bat Assemblage Assessment

An assessment of the importance of the bat assemblage as a whole, including foraging and/or commuting habitats present at the site, has been undertaken in line with the Bat Mitigation Guidelines (Reason and Wray, 2025). A score was assigned for each species identified during the survey work, with a total score of 26 achieved, see Table 4.5 below. As such, the site is considered to be of County to Regional importance based on the bat assemblage present.

Table 4.5: Assessment of Bat Assemblage

Species[5]	Evidence	Category	Score
Common pipistrelle	Roosting, foraging and commuting. Including a maternity roost.	Widespread in all geographies (1 point per species)	1
Soprano pipistrelle	Roosting, foraging and commuting Including a hibernation roost.	Widespread in all geographies (1 point per species)	1
Brown long-eared bat	Roosting, foraging and commuting Including a hibernation roost.	Widespread in all geographies (1 point per species)	1

[5] *Myotis* sp. bat was recorded during the survey work undertaken, both during activity surveys and roosting within a building. As this species group cannot reliably be identified from their calls alone, it is not known which species is present at the site. However, given the levels of *Myotis* sp. activity recorded and habitats present, it is considered appropriate to assume presence of all four widespread *Myotis* sp. are using the site. Particularly given that records of all four species, Brandt's bat, Daubenton's bat, Natterer's bat and Whiskered bat were returned during the desk study. Additionally, big bat and *Nyctalus* sp. calls were recorded and are considered likely to be serotine or noctule.

Species[5]	Evidence	Category	Score
Daubenton's	*Myotis* sp. roosting, foraging and commuting. Including a *Myotis* sp. hibernation roost.	Widespread in many geographies, but not abundant in all (2 points per species)	2
Whiskered bat	*Myotis* sp. roosting, foraging and commuting. Including a *Myotis* sp. hibernation roost.	Widespread in many geographies, but not abundant in all (2 points per species)	2
Natterer's bat	*Myotis* sp. roosting, foraging and commuting. Including a *Myotis* sp. hibernation roost.	Widespread in many geographies, but not abundant in all (2 points per species)	2
Brandt's bat	*Myotis* sp. roosting, foraging and commuting. Including a *Myotis* sp. hibernation roost.	Widespread in many geographies, but not abundant in all (2 points per species)	2
Noctule	Foraging and commuting	Widespread in many geographies, but not abundant in all (2 points per species)	2
Lesser horseshoe	Foraging and commuting	Rarer or restricted distribution (3 points per species)	3
Nathusius' pipistrelle	Foraging and commuting	Rarer or restricted distribution (3 points per species)	3
Serotine	Foraging and commuting	Rarer or restricted distribution (3 points per species)	3
Greater horseshoe	Foraging and commuting	Rarest Annex II species and very rare (4 points per species)	4
Total Score =	**Between 20 and 26 if all four widespread *Myotis* sp. are precautionarily considered to be present.**		**26**

Source: Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026

5 Impact Assessment

5.1 Avoidance and Minimisation

In line with Planning Policy Wales and Section 6 of the 2016 Act, the Proposed Development should seek to avoid impacts to receptors of ecological importance (habitats and species).

As a result, the avoidance measures described below have been embedded into the design of the works in order to avoid or minimise impacts:

- A high-level optioneering workshop, including site visit, was undertaken to review a number of potential locations for the Proposed Development in May 2024. The workshop included specialists from several disciplines, including ecology. As part of this process, the design options were scored based on their ecological impact, with the least impactful design chosen.
- Areas of irreplaceable peat forming habitats were avoided at an early Stage, with design options impacting moorland habitats taken out of consideration.
- Existing hedgerows and tree lines have been retained through design, with the final works layout located within an improved pasture field. Clearance of a small number of trees and short lengths of hedgerow may be required to connect new pipework from the DAF building into the existing WTW site. The pipework has been located within an existing hedgerow gap to minimise vegetation loss, however, some clearance is unavoidable as a connection needs to be made into the existing site.
- The access track that will be used during construction utilises an existing farm track and gate, reducing the need for hedgerow removal.
- Consideration has been given to nocturnal species (including bats and barn owl) within the lighting design for the Proposed Development.

5.2 Anticipated Impacts, Mitigation and Compensation

An assessment of the anticipated impacts on the ecological receptors identified within Section 4 and the proposed mitigation and compensation measures for each, are set out within Table 5.1 below.

An assessment of the impacts of the Proposed Development on ecosystems and resilience is documented within a separate Green Infrastructure Statement. However, where relevant to ecology, potential impacts have been highlighted within Table 5.1 below, to support an assessment of the impacts to ecosystem services.

Table 5.1: Assessment of Impacts of the Proposed Development and Proposed Mitigation/Compensation

Receptor	Location	Value	Level of Protection	Impact Assessment	Mitigation/Compensation
Designated Site					
Coedydd Nedd a Mellte SAC	0.47km west	International (European)	SAC protected by the 2017 Regulations	No direct impacts to this designated site are anticipated. However, the Proposed Development may indirectly affect this site through run-off and dust deposition.	An assessment of the likely significant effects to this designated site has been undertaken as part of the Habitats Regulation Assessment (Mott MacDonald, 2026g). Safeguards will be put in place both during the operation and construction phases, as follows: During the construction phase, safeguards will be included within a CEMP. Pollution prevention measures will be implemented during construction to avoid silt or run-off entering watercourses. The following pollution prevention measures are included within the design of the works to prevent impacts during the operational phase: All chemicals will be bunded with 110% bunds with dual contained pipework and leak detection. 24/7 telemetry system to monitor chloring gas levels, to ensure issues are responded to in a timely manner. Chemical delivery areas implemented to catch any spillage during chemical deliveries. A chemical waste tank will also be installed to store any spillage. Forced ventilation system for chlorine gas within the existing WTW.
Habitats					
Priority Habitat - h2a5 Native Hedgerow	Within the footprint of the Proposed Development	County	This habitat type is listed as a Priority Habitat under Section 7 of the 2016 Act	Partial loss of the Section 7 Priority Habitat type, hedgerows, is anticipated as a result of the proposed works, whilst indirect impacts such as run-off or dust deposition may also adversely impact retained hedgerows.	Loss of a small number of trees/scrub to widen an existing hedgerow gap may be required in order to connect pipework into the existing WTW. All hedgerow habitat will be reinstated upon completion of the works, whilst any trees lost will be replaced at a ratio of 3:1 as a minimum (see Section 6 for details of enhancement planting). In addition, a new native hedgerow will be planted as part of landscaping (52m in length). As such, a net increase of this habitat type is anticipated. To protect the retained habitat throughout the construction phase, control measures will be laid out within a CEMP or similar to prevent indirect impacts, including run-off and dust deposition. Offsite trees will be protected with tree protection fencing in line with BS5837 2012.
Priority Habitat – g1a6 Lowland dry acid grassland	Adjacent to the	County	This habitat type is listed as a Priority Habitat under Section 7 of the 2016 Act.	No loss of this habitat type is anticipated as a result of the proposed works. However, indirect impacts such as run-off or dust deposition may adversely impact	The grassland road verge will be safeguarded throughout the construction phase of works, with fencing installed and sign-posted. No machinery or plant will be driven into this area.

Receptor	Location	Value	Level of Protection	Impact Assessment	Mitigation/Compensation
	construction access track			this grassland type during construction, as it is located immediately adjacent to the construction access track.	To protect the retained habitat throughout the construction phase, control measures will be laid out within a CEMP or similar to prevent indirect impacts, including run-off and dust deposition. As part of the enhancement of the site, grassland management will be undertaken to improve the quality of this sword, positively impacting this habitat type (see Section 6 for enhancement details).
Priority Habitat - w1f7 Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	Adjacent to the Proposed Development	National (Wales)	This habitat type is listed as a Priority Habitat under Section 7 of the 2016 Act.	No loss of these habitat types is anticipated as a result of the proposed works. However, indirect impacts such as run-off or dust deposition may adversely impact upon the areas of retained habitat during construction activities.	To protect the retained habitat throughout the construction phase, control measures will be laid out within a CEMP or similar to prevent indirect impacts, including run-off and dust deposition. Offsite trees will be protected with tree protection fencing in line with BS5837 2012.
Priority Habitat - f2b purple moor grass and rush pastures	Adjacent to the construction access track	National (Wales)	This habitat type is listed as a Priority Habitat under Section 7 of the 2016 Act.	No loss of these habitat types is anticipated as a result of the proposed works. However, indirect impacts such as run-off or dust deposition may adversely impact upon the areas of retained habitat during construction activities.	To protect the retained habitat throughout the construction phase, control measures will be laid out within a CEMP or similar to prevent indirect impacts, including run-off and dust deposition.
Priority Habitat - h1b6 wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, upland (H4010)	Adjacent to the construction access track	International (European)	Annex 1 Habitats protect by the Regulations 2017.	No loss of these habitat types is anticipated as a result of the proposed works. However, indirect impacts such as run-off or dust deposition may adversely impact upon the areas of retained habitat during construction activities.	To protect the retained habitat throughout the construction phase, control measures will be laid out within a CEMP or similar to prevent indirect impacts, including run-off and dust deposition.
Other habitats	Within the footprint of the Proposed Development	Site	N/A	Loss of habitat considered to be of importance at a Site level is anticipated as a result of the Proposed Development. Whilst the habitats themselves are considered to be of low value, they also provide habitat suitable for a number of protected and/or notable species.	A dedicated ecological enhancement area will be included within the design of the Proposed Development. Enhancements will be carried out in order to achieve a net benefit for biodiversity across the site as a whole. This will include grassland management, orchard planting and broadleaved tree planting. As such, no long-term impacts to the species that rely on these habitat types for foraging and/or commuting are anticipated (see Section 6 for further information).
Protected and/or Notable Species					
Birds	Hedgerow, scrub and buildings	Local	All wild birds are protected under the 1981 Act. It is an offence to take, damage or destroy the nest or eggs of any wild bird while it is in	The proposed works will result in the minor loss of trees/hedgerow habitat suitable for breeding bird species. Works within and adjacent to the existing buildings could also disturb breeding	Pre-clearance checks will be undertaken by an experienced ecologist to identify any evidence of nesting birds. If a bird's nest is found, it will be left *in-situ* and protected from the works by a temporary buffer zone. No works will be undertaken in the buffer zone until the birds have fledged, which may take up to 6 weeks depending on the species present.

Receptor	Location	Value	Level of Protection	Impact Assessment	Mitigation/Compensation
			use or being built. Schedule 1 species are afforded additional protection from disturbance whilst breeding, including barn owl.	birds. The proposed works have the potential to disturb, damage or destroy birds and their nesting sites and could result in a minor reduction in habitat availability for this species group. The works could result in the disturbance to Schedule 1 species, barn owl, as a nest box is present within the existing WTW site.	Despite the length of the construction period, 15 months, the most intrusive works within Cefn Drysgoed WTW will be undertaken outside of the core breeding season for birds. This will prevent disturbance to the species using the existing buildings to nest, alongside barn owl which could be nesting within a box to the north of the site (March to August). All construction traffic, machinery and deliveries should be kept to the dedicated temporary site compound (see appendix A for locations). No machinery or plant should be taken into the WTW site unless necessary to undertake the works. A pre-works check of the existing barn owl nest box will be carried out prior to works commencing. Should evidence of breeding barn owl be identified, no works will be undertaken within 100m of the nest until the chicks have fledged. In the long-term loss of suitable habitat will be compensated through the provision of nest boxes, planting of broadleaved trees and grassland management (see Section 6).
Bats	Buildings, hedgerows and tree lines	County to Regional	Bat species are protected under the 2017 Regulations, the 1981 Act and are also listed under Section 7 of the 2016 Act. In summary, it is an offence to kill, injure, disturb or capture any bats or damage, destroy or obstruct access to their roosts.	No modification of roost features is anticipated as part of the Proposed Development, whilst all bat roosts will be retained long-term. However, the works have the potential to disturb, kill or injure bats. This includes maternity and hibernation roosts. The proposed works will also result in a minor loss of foraging and commuting habitat (small number of trees within an existing hedgerow break), which is unlikely to have a significant impact on bats given the availability of hedgerows and tree lines at the site, and continued connectivity. Any works undertaken at night, or the introduction of artificial lighting/increased noise pollution has the potential to adversely affect this species group.	The following measures will be put in place to minimise impacts to roosting bats: Works likely to impact roosting bats will be undertaken outside of the maternity season (May to August inclusive) (i.e. works within 30m of the known roosts within Cefn Dryscoed WTW). Where possible, works will also be timed to avoid the hibernation season (November to March). However, as the construction period is 15 months long (July 2027 to September 2028), works within proximity to the existing WTW buildings during the winter season are unavoidable. Where necessary, temporary noise barriers will be installed to reduce impacts to roosting bats. Bat boxes will be installed as alternative roost provision, prior to works being undertaken. Toolbox talks will be delivered to all site personnel by a bat licenced ecologist. A pre-works check will be undertaken of all trees known to support features suitable for roosting bats. Where necessary, trees will be soft-felled (*i.e.* limbs should be carefully removed and left overnight before being removed or chipped). All construction traffic will be kept to the dedicated temporary site compound (see Appendix A for locations). No machinery or plant will be taken into the WTW site unless necessary to undertake the works.

Receptor	Location	Value	Level of Protection	Impact Assessment	Mitigation/Compensation
					All works likely to constitute disturbance will be carried out under an NRW protected species licence, with appropriate measures included within a method statement and agreed with NRW. Retained woodland parcels and trees will be safeguarded in line with BS5837:2012. All external lighting will be fitted with hoods, backboards or equivalent to prevent light spill onto retained habitats. As far as possible, construction works will be undertaken during daylight hours (see Table 1.1 for working hours). Where this is not possible, directional lighting will be used, facing away from the tree and scrub lines bordering the site, and away from roost features. In the long-term loss of suitable habitat will be compensated through the provision of bat boxes, planting of broadleaved trees and grassland management to benefit invertebrates (see Section 6).
Badger	Hedgerow, Woodlands and pasture fields.	Site	Badgers are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992.	The proposed works could result in the minor loss of habitat suitable for this species and could kill, injure or disturb individuals, if present. Any works undertaken at night, or the introduction of artificial lighting/increased noise pollution has the potential to adversely affect this species group.	Construction safeguards will be employed as part of a CEMP including: Excavations will be fenced off and/or covered to avoid animals becoming trapped with mammal ladders installed where required. Spoil piles will be covered over. No equipment or chemicals will be stored within habitat suitable for badgers (including fuel for equipment and machinery). Mitigation in respect of bats and lighting will also reduce impacts on badger. As this species is highly mobile and regularly creates new setts, a pre-works check will be undertaken to identify any new evidence of badger. This update survey will be carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist a minimum of 8 weeks prior to works commencing.
European hedgehog and Other Mammals	Hedgerow, scrub, woodland edge and grassland	Site	Common mammals are protected from certain cruel acts with intent to cause unnecessary suffering by the Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996. This includes protection from crushing or asphyxiation.	The proposed works would result in a minor loss of suitable habitat for this species group and as such, has the potential to kill or injure individuals. Mammals such as moles receive protection from certain construction activities under the Wild Mammals Protection Act 1996.	A pre-works check will be undertaken for mammal burrows by an experienced ecologist. Where present, burrows will be carefully excavated by hand or small machine in sections under ecological supervision to allow mammals to escape, this includes mole hills. Safeguards described below in relation to reptiles will be sufficient to safeguard hedgehog, if present, during any vegetation clearance. Any hedgehogs found will be relocated to suitable habitat outside of the works area.
Reptiles	Hedgerow, scrub, stone	Site	Reptiles are protected under the 1981 Act and are listed	The proposed works would result in a minor loss of suitable habitat for this	All vegetation clearance will be undertaken in a phased manner, under ecological supervision. The removal of any hibernacula (including stone walls) will be undertaken by hand between April and the end of October

Receptor	Location	Value	Level of Protection	Impact Assessment	Mitigation/Compensation
	walls and grassland		under Section 7 of the 2016 Act. In summary, it is an offence to kill or injure common reptile species (*i.e*. common lizard)	species group and as such, has the potential to kill or injure individuals. Indirect effects such as dust deposition may impact upon any retained habitat during construction activities. It is anticipated that these impacts would be controlled by measures set out in CEMP.	(subject to weather conditions), whilst reptiles are active. A toolbox talk should be provided to all those working on-site. If reptiles are found, work should cease until advice has been obtained from the site ecologist. In the long-term, the loss of suitable habitat will be compensated through: Creation of refugia in the form of a log pile within broadleaved woodland in Cefn Dryscoed WTW. Creation of a pond within a dedicated enhancement area. Grassland management to improve the quality of the existing modified grassland within a dedicated enhancement area.
Amphibians	Hedgerow, scrub, stone walls and grassland	Site	Common toad are listed as Section 7 Priority Species under the 2016 Act.	The proposed works would result in a minor loss of suitable habitat for this species group and as such, has the potential to kill or injure individuals. Indirect effects such as dust deposition may impact upon any retained habitat during construction activities. It is anticipated that these impacts would be controlled by measures set out in CEMP.	All vegetation clearance will be undertaken in a phased manner under ecological supervision. The removal of any hibernacula (including stone walls) will be undertaken by hand between April and the end of October, subject to weather conditions, whilst amphibians are active. A toolbox talk will be provided to all those working on-site. If evidence of amphibians is found, work will cease until advice has been obtained from the site ecologist. In the long-term, the loss of suitable habitat will be compensated through: Creation of refugia in the form of a log pile within broadleaved woodland in Cefn Dryscoed WTW. Creation of a pond within a dedicated enhancement area. Grassland management to improve the quality of the existing modified grassland within a dedicated enhancement area.
Invertebrates	Hedgerow, scrub and grassland	Local	A number of species returned during the desk study are listed as Section 7 Priority Species under the 2016 Act.	The proposed works would result in the minor loss of habitat suitable for terrestrial invertebrates. Indirect effects during the construction phase such as dust-deposition or run-off may also adversely affect this species group.	In the long-term, the loss of suitable habitat will be compensated through habitat enhancements within a dedicated enhancement area. This will include: Grassland management to improve the quality and species diversity of the swards. Planting of broadleaved trees and orchard planting to provide habitat suitable for a range of invertebrate species. Creation of a pond to provide habitat for aquatic species. Full details of the habitat enhancements proposed are provided within Section 6.
Vascular Plants	Grassland and hedgerow	Local	N/A (only notable species present)	Indirect impacts such as run-off or dust deposition could impact these species.	The populations of notable species will be sign-posted to alert all site personnel to their presence. Best practice safeguards will be employed to reduce the effects of dust and run-off during construction.

Receptor	Location	Value	Level of Protection	Impact Assessment	Mitigation/Compensation
Invasive Plant species	Within the footprint of the Proposed Development	Negligible	Himalayan balsam is listed on Schedule 2 of the 2019 Act, making it an offence to plant or otherwise cause the species to grow in the wild.	The proposed works may directly impact the stands of Himalayan balsam. Suitable methods for controlling the spread of this species should be outlined within a biodiversity risk assessment.	Control measures to prevent the spread of invasive species will be outlined within a CEMP to ensure invasive plant species do not spread into neighbouring habitats. This should include the demarcation of invasive species on site throughout the construction phase, a site-specific toolbox talk to all construction staff prior to the commencement of the works and biosecurity measures. An update check for invasive species should be undertaken by a suitably experienced ecologist prior to works commencing.

Source: Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026

5.3 Cumulative Impacts

The planning portal was checked for active applications in January 2026. No active planning applications exist within or immediately adjacent to the Proposed Development. The closest application is for an extension to a residential property, 300m to the south of Cefn Dryscoed WTW. No cumulative impacts are anticipated from this development.

Given the scale of the development and the nature of the ecology impacts anticipated, no cumulative effects at a larger scale (e.g. from more distant developments) are anticipated.

5.4 Residual Effects

On the assumption that the mitigation and compensation measures identified throughout this Section are implemented, particularly that adequate compensatory planting will ensure that the Proposed Development does not result in a net loss of habitat suitable for protected/notable species, no adverse residual effects from the Proposed Development are anticipated. In the long-term, the compensation measures proposed alongside additional enhancement measures will deliver beneficial residual effects (see Section 6 for proposed enhancements).

6 Net Benefit for Biodiversity

Chapter 6 of PPW requires development proposals to employ and evidence use of a Step-wise approach in decision making. The Step-wise Approach includes the following 'steps': avoid, minimise, mitigate/restore, compensate on-site and then compensate off-site, as well as providing enhancements at every step.

The approach to avoidance, minimisation and compensation is laid out within Section 5 (Section 5.1 for avoidance and minimisation and Table 5.1 for mitigation and compensation). The approach to on-site verses off-site compensation and enhancements for the scheme are described within the following Sections.

6.1 Compensation On-Site vs Off-Site

In order to construct the new DAF building, DCWW are purchasing the northern half of a pasture field. All areas not required for the construction of the Proposed Development will be used to provide ecological enhancements. As such, compensation for the loss of habitats will be provided 'on-site' (see Appendix F for locations). This area will be set-aside and will be safeguarded from future development by DCWW.

The Proposed Development will result in the permanent loss of 0.47ha of grassland (0.45ha of modified grassland and 0.02ha of semi-improved neutral grassland). As compensation for this habitat loss, the following will be embedded into the design of the works:

- **Grassland management:** A long-term management regime will be implemented to improve species diversity and condition of modified and lowland acid grasslands to benefit invertebrates, amphibians and reptiles (and in turn, bats and birds). Management will include a cutting regime with the target of more than 10 species per m^2 for all existing areas of modified grassland. Management of lowland acid grassland with target a decrease in non-favourable species (*i.e.* creeping thistle) and an increase in acid indicator species. A total area of 0.65ha of grassland will be managed to compensate for the loss of 0.47ha.

All habitats lost temporarily in order to connect pipelines from the DAF building to the existing site will be re-instated to the original condition upon completion of the works. This includes the replacement of any hedgerow lost and re-instatement of the stone wall. A total of 0.04ha of grassland will be removed temporarily to install pipelines. The grassland will be managed long-term following re-instatement to improve the species diversity and condition.

6.2 Enhancements

The following habitat enhancement measures are proposed:

- **Orchard planting:** An orchard will be planted within existing grassland (0.15ha). The trees will be planted a minimum of 3m away from underground pipelines to prevent damage as the trees mature. The trees will be mulched and monitored to ensure they mature, providing habitat for invertebrates both in bark and fruit. Species will be obtained from a Welsh nursery and will be adequately watered to ensure successful establishment.
- **Pond creation:** A pond will be created within the area of orchard planting. Native aquatic species will be planted around the margins of the pond, providing habitat suitable for invertebrates, amphibians and reptiles. The pond is located at the highest point, avoiding run-off from adjacent pasture fields. It will be designed with variation in depth to provide a range of conditions and water levels and will be allowed to replenish naturally from rainwater.

- **Woodland planting:** An area of broadleaved woodland will be planted to increase canopy cover, provide shelter for a range of species and improve carbon capture and heat retention (0.09ha). Species will include oak sp. and field maple, alongside understorey species such as holly and hawthorn.
- **Tree planting:** A line of broadleaved trees will be planted along the southern boundary of the pasture field, consisting of English oak and field maple (129m in length). The trees will be allowed to mature to provide opportunities for a range of species including bats and birds and will improve connectivity across the site.
- **Hedgerow creation:** A native, species-rich hedgerow will be planted adjacent to the new access track for the DAF building (52m in length). The hedgerow will be planted with a minimum of five native woody species.
- **Stone wall:** A dry-stone wall will be built around the perimeter of the new DAF building. The wall will provide opportunities for a range of species to shelter, including reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates and small mammals.
- **Artificial lighting:** The existing artificial lighting within Cefn Dryscoed WTW will be reviewed by an experienced bat ecologist and will be modified to reduce disturbance to bats. Motion sensors will be replaced and timers modified to reduce the length of time light is on each night. Where required, hoods or cowls will be fitted or the direction on the lighting will be modified to reduce light-spill.
- **Bat boxes:** One bat box will be installed on a retained tree line bordering Cefn Dryscoed WTW (in addition to any compensation boxes installed as alternative roost sites under an NRW licence). Where possible, bat boxes, bricks or suitable features will be embedded in the design of the new DAF building.
- **Bird boxes:** Where possible, nest boxes will be installed on the exterior of the DAF building. The boxes will be tailored to the species known to be present within the area.
- **Artificial refugia:** One log-pile will be created to provide opportunities for reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates and hedgehogs. The refugia will be located within woodland edge habitat within Cefn Dryscoed WTW.

The proposed enhancements have been designed in line with the DECCA framework, which is described within Table 6.1 below and is also documented in a separate Green Infrastructure Statement. A habitat enhancement plan is provided within Appendix F, which shows the approximate location of each proposed enhancement. The exact locations will be micro-sited by an experienced supervising ecologist.

Table 6.1: DECCA Assessment of Enhancements

DECCA Assessment of Enhancements	
Diversity	The diversity of species and habitat types at the site will be improved by implementing the proposed enhancements. Species diversity will be increased through grassland management of areas of species-poor modified grassland with a target of more than 10 species per m^2. Orchard planting and creation of a pond will also increase the diversity of habitat types present, improving habitat availability and quality for a range of species.
Extent	The extent of woodland, hedgerow and tree lines will be increased at the site by planting these habitat types. This includes planting of 52m of hedgerow, 129m of tree line and 0.09ha of broadleaved woodland. The extent of semi-improved grassland will also be increased through management of modified grassland to increase species diversity and condition with 0.47ha of modified grassland lost as a result of the Proposed Development and 0.65ha managed long-term.
Condition	At present, the band of lowland dry acid grassland is showing signs of nutrient enrichment, with species such as creeping thistle encroaching into the sword. Grassland management will improve the condition of this habitat and retain it in the long-term. Grassland management of modified pasture will also improve species diversity and condition.

DECCA Assessment of Enhancements	
Connectivity	Broadleaved tree planting along the southern border of the field will improve connectivity by connecting existing tree lines within the WTW to the west to existing hedgerows in the east. The creation of this tree line would provide opportunities for foraging and/or commuting bats, birds, badger and other mammals. The site is also located within two NRW Priority Ecological Network sites for semi-improved natural grassland and native woodland (Welsh Government, 2026). The proposed woodland planting and grassland enhancements will contribute to the larger ecological network of these habitat types, within the wider area. The habitats will provide 'stepping-stones' of suitable habitat in the wider landscape.
Adaptability (to change)	Management of the lowland dry acid grassland will contribute to the retention of this Section 7 Priority Habitat type, whilst increasing the diversity of habitat types present will also improve the sites adaptability in the long-term, providing variation in the opportunities present for a range of species. Increasing tree canopy cover will improve carbon storage and heat retention at the site, improving the long-term adaptability of the site.

Source: Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026

6.3 Long-term Habitat Management

A Landscape and Ecology Management Plan has been produced which included long-term monitoring of the ecological enhancement area for a period of 30 years. All enhancements will be monitored in years one, two and three post-enhancement to ensure successful implementation *i.e.* to ensure the planted trees successfully establish. Where needed, corrective actions will be undertaken to ensure the successful enhancement of the area *i.e.* additional tree planting will be undertaken where saplings fail, or grassland management will be modified until the target species diversity is achieved. Following which the area will be monitored in five-year intervals until the period of 30 years is reached (*i.e.* years five, ten, fifteen, twenty, twenty-five and thirty).

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Appendices

A. Proposed Development Plans

NOTES:

A1h

1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE SHOWN IN MILLIMETRES (mm) UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
2. NO DIMENSIONS ARE TO BE SCALED FROM THIS DRAWING.
3. DRAWING FOR PLANNING APPLICATION TO BANNAU BRYCHEINIOG (BRECON BEACONS) NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY ONLY. NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE.
4. THIS DRAWING SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH INFORMATION PROVIDED AS PART OF THE PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THE WORKS.
5. REFER TO THE FOLLOWING DRAWINGS FOR MORE INFORMATION:

B17545-123532-12-ZZ-DR-CA-PN1202 - PROPOSED CROSS SITE ELEVATIONS
B17545-123532-12-XX-DR-CA-PN1203 - ENABLING WORKS LAYOUT PLAN

KEY :

- PROPOSED GRASSED / GRAVELLED AREAS
- PROPOSED LANDSCAPING AREAS
- PROPOSED HIGHWAY JUNCTION AREA
- PROPOSED SITE FOOTPATHS
- PROPOSED ACCESS ROAD AREA
- DCWW LAND BOUNDARY
- AREA OF PLANNING BOUNDARY
- EXISTING PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY (PRoW)
- EXISTING (ASSUMED DN600) RAW WATER MAIN
- PROPOSED DN500 RAW WATER MAIN
- EXISTING DN100 SUPERNATANT PIPELINE (ROUTE INDICATIVELY SHOWN)
- PROPOSED DN100 SUPERNATANT PIPELINE
- PROPOSED DN500 CLARIFIED WATER MAIN PIPELINE
- EXISTING RGF WASTEWATER / OVERFLOW PIPELINE
- PROPOSED DN600 DAF WASTEWATER / OVERFLOW PIPELINE
- EXISTING CHEMICAL FEEDING (EXISTING LINES TO BE REPLACED AS DUAL CONTAINED LINES) AND ELECTRICAL FEEDING PIPELINES
- PROPOSED CHEMICAL FEEDING (DUAL CONTAINED) AND ELECTRICAL FEEDING PIPELINES
- NEW VALVES

Rev.	Date	BIM.	Description	Chk.	App.	Iss Date.
P02	06.11.25	GS	FOR INFORMATION	KM	PRC	26.01.26
P01	14.05.25	GS	FOR INFORMATION	KM	GLC	16.05.25

Capital Delivery Cynghrair Cyflawni

Project Name.
CEFN DRYSCOED DAF

Drawing Title.
PROPOSED WORKS SITE LAYOUT

Suitability. FOR INFORMATION		Suitability Code. S2
Technician. GS	Originator. LC	Date. 01.04.25
Internal Project Number. DC24M800A	Scale. As Indicated @	Rev. P02
Drawing Number. B17545-123532-12- ZZ-DR-CA-PN1201		MMB MOTT MACDONALD BENTLEY

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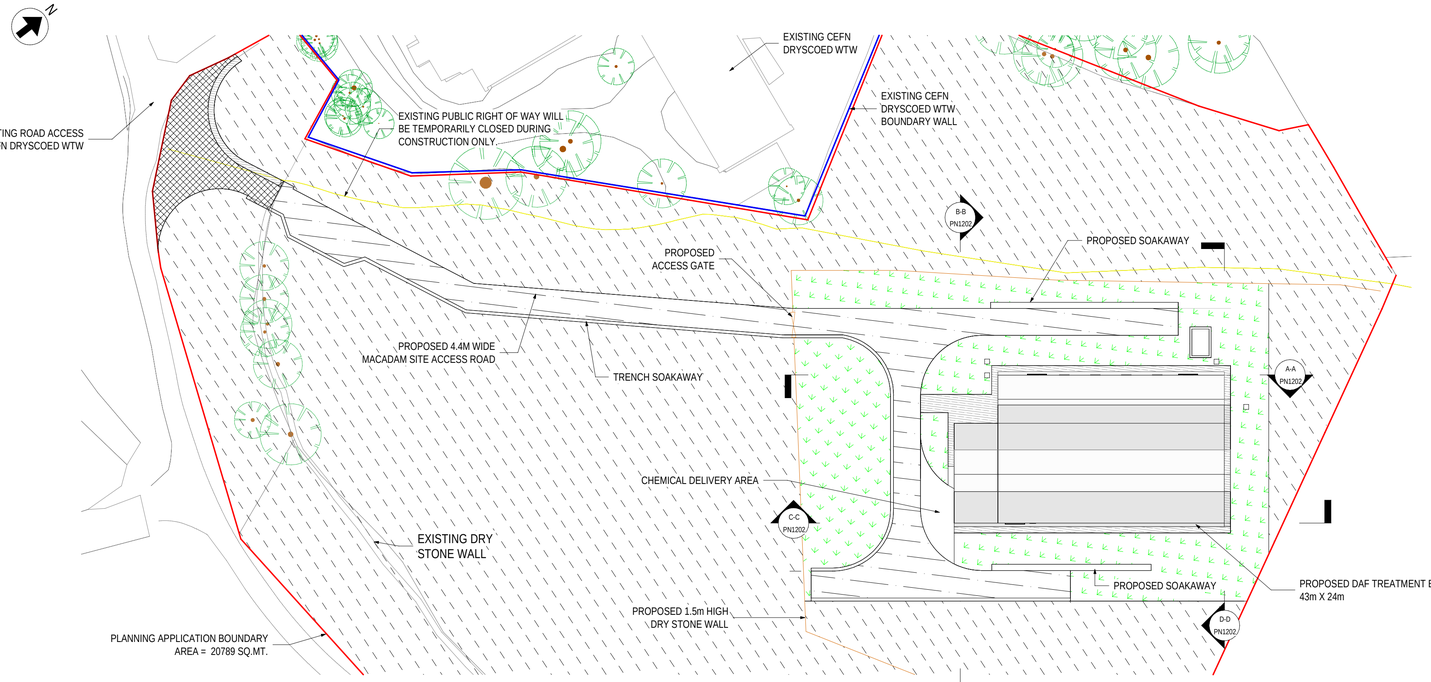

PLAN

1 : 500

PROPOSED DRYSTONE WALL DETAIL

1 : 20

NOTES:

1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE SHOWN IN MILLIMETRES (mm) UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
2. NO DIMENSIONS ARE TO BE SCALED FROM THIS DRAWING.
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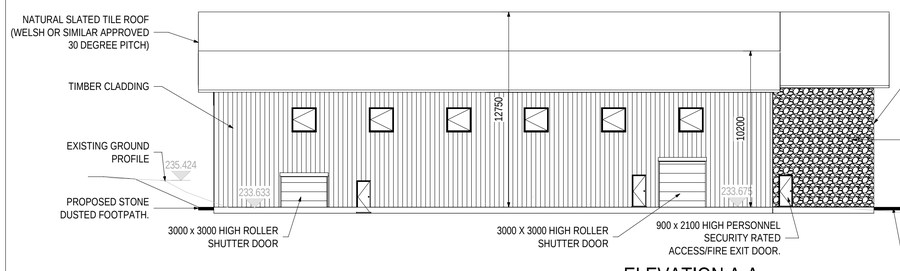
4. THIS DRAWING SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH INFORMATION PROVIDED AS PART OF THE PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THE WORKS.
5. REFER TO THE FOLLOWING DRAWINGS FOR MORE INFORMATION:
   B17545-123532-12-ZZ-DR-CA-PN1201 - PROPOSED WORKS SITE LAYOUT
   B17545-123532-12-XX-DR-CA-PN1203 - ENABLING WORKS LAYOUT PLAN
7. PROPOSED ACCESS ROAD AREA CROSS SECTION IS BASED ON DCWW STANDARD DRAWING FOR A TYPICAL FARM TRACK CROSS SECTION WITH DRAWING REFERENCE NUMBER SDC2006/004.
8. PROPOSED HIGHWAY JUNCTION AREA CROSS SECTION IS BASED ON DCWW STANDARD DRAWING SDC2006/002.

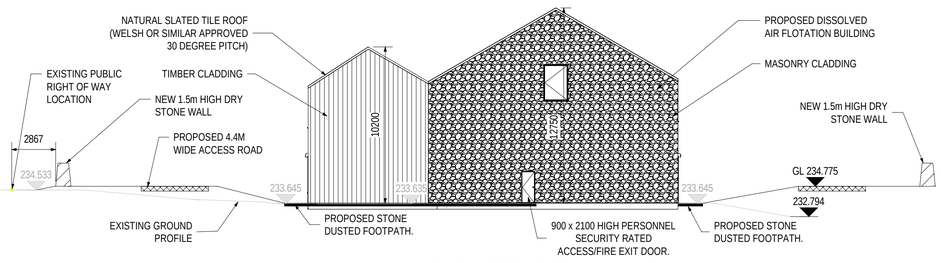
KEY :

- PROPOSED GRASSED / GRAVELLED AREAS
- PROPOSED LANDSCAPING AREAS
- PROPOSED ACCESS ROAD AREA
- PROPOSED SITE FOOTPATHS
- PROPOSED HIGHWAY JUNCTION AREA
- DCWW LAND BOUNDARY
- PLANNING APPLICATION BOUNDARY
- EXISTING PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY (PRoW)



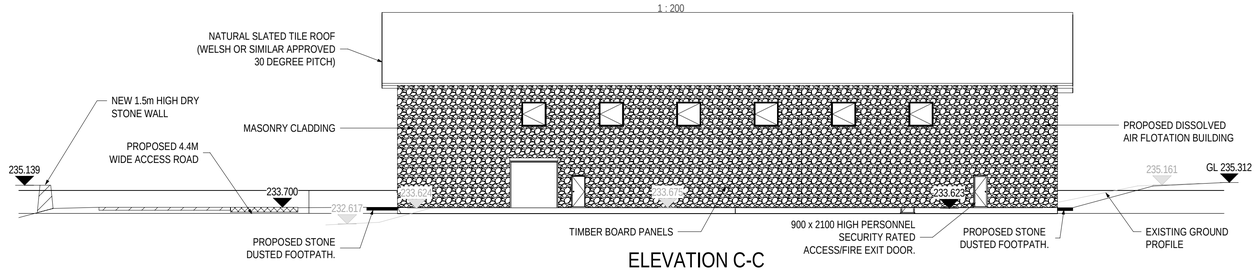
ELEVATION A-A

1 : 200



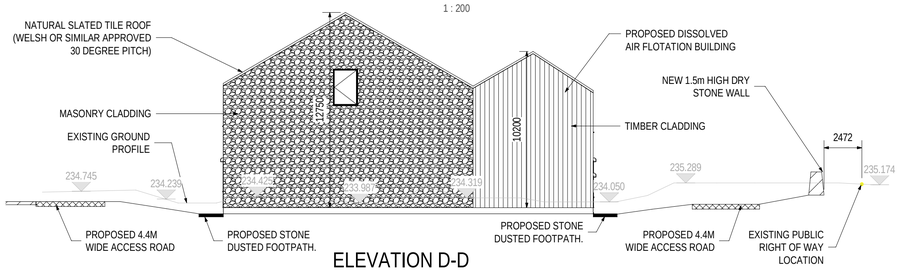
ELEVATION B-B

1 : 200



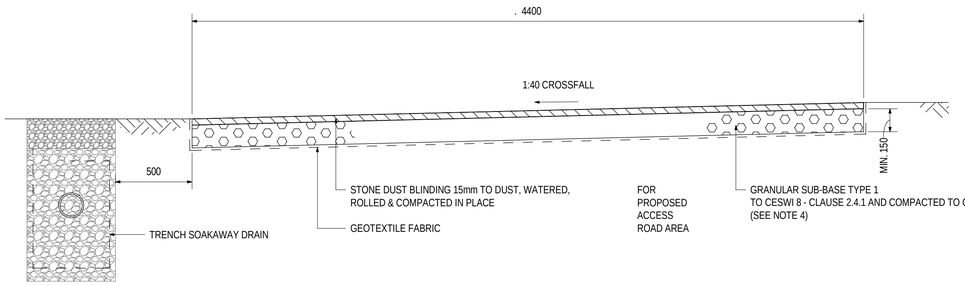
ELEVATION C-C

1 : 200



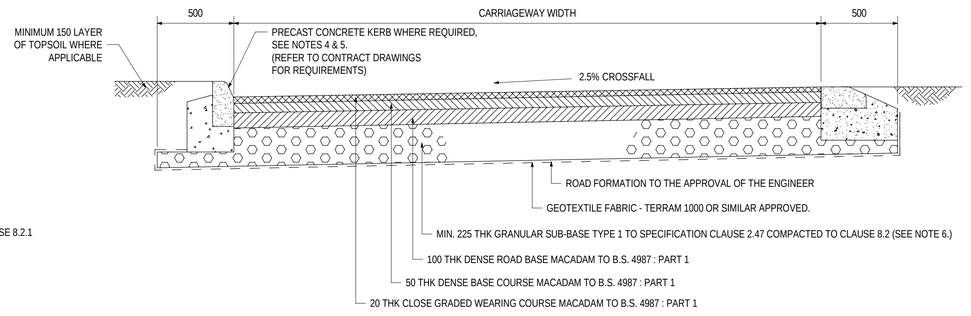
ELEVATION D-D

1 : 200



TYPICAL CROSS SECTION - FARM TRACK FOR PROPOSED ACCESS ROAD AREA

1 : 20



TYPICAL CROSS SECTION - CROSSFALL FLEXIBLE ROAD FOR PROPOSED HIGHWAY JUNCTION AREA

1 : 20

1:500 — 0, 25m, 50m
1:200 — 0, 10m, 20m
1:20 — 0, 1000mm, 2m

Rev.	Date	BIM.	Description	Chk.	App.	Iss Date.
P03	12.02.26	DAP	FOR INFORMATION	KM	PRC	12.02.26
P02	20.11.25	GS	FOR INFORMATION	KM	PRC	26.01.26
P01	15.05.25	GS	FOR INFORMATION	KM	GLC	16.05.25

Capital Delivery Cynghrair Cyflawni

Project Name.
CEFN DRYSCOED DAF

Drawing Title.
PROPOSED CROSS SITE ELEVATIONS

Suitability. FOR INFORMATION
Suitability Code. S2

Technician. GS
Originator. GC
Date. 01.04.25

Internal Project Number. DC24M800A
Scale. As indicated @
Rev. P03

Drawing Number. B17545-123532-12- ZZ-DR-CA-PN1202

MMB MOTT MACDONALD BENTLEY

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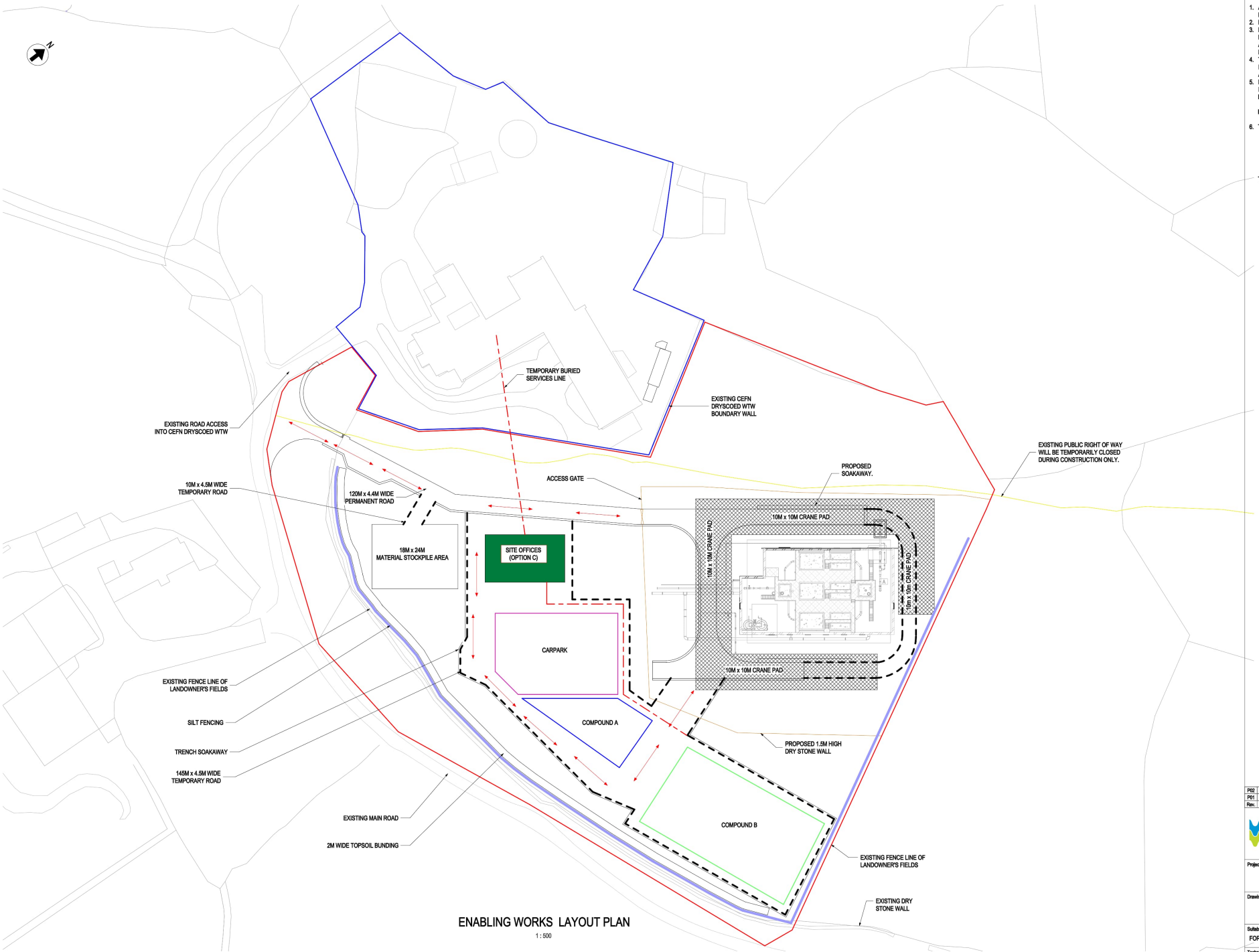

ENABLING WORKS LAYOUT PLAN

1 : 500

1:500 0 25m 50m

A1h

NOTES:

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5. REFER TO THE FOLLOWING DRAWINGS FOR MORE INFORMATION:
   B17545-123532-12-ZZ-DR-CA-PN1201 - PROPOSED WORKS SITE LAYOUT
   B17545-123532-12-ZZ-DR-CA-PN1202 - PROPOSED CROSS SITE ELEVATIONS
6. TOTAL AREA OF TEMP ROAD/COMPOUND
   600m2
   1325m2
   575m2
   2380m2
   452m2
   360m2
   TOTAL = 5672m2

Rev.	Date	BIM.	Description	Chk.	App.	Iss Date.
P02	14.01.26	DAP	FOR INFORMATION	KM	PRC	26.01.26
P01	15.05.25	GS	FOR INFORMATION	KM	GLC	16.05.25

Capital Delivery
Cynghrair Cyflawni

Project Name.
CEFN DRYSCOED DAF

Drawing Title.
ENABLING WORKS LAYOUT PLAN

Suitability. FOR INFORMATION
Suitability Code. S2

Technician. GS
Originator. LC
Date. 25.04.25

Internal Project Number. DC24MB00A
Scale. AS SHOWN
Rev. P02

Drawing Number. B17545-123532-12- XX-DR-CA-PN1203

MMB
MOTT MACDONALD BENTLEY

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SITE BOUNDARY PLAN

1 : 1250

1:1250 0 62.5m 125m

A1h

NOTES:

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5. REFER TO THE FOLLOWING DRAWINGS FOR MORE INFORMATION:
   - B17545-123532-12-ZZ-DR-CA-PN1201 - PROPOSED WORKS SITE LAYOUT
   - B17545-123532-12-ZZ-DR-CA-PN1202 - PROPOSED CROSS SITE ELEVATIONS
   - B17545-123532-12-XX-DR-CA-PN1203 - ENABLING WORKS LAYOUT PLAN
6. SITE LOCATED AT CEFN DRYSCOED WTW WITH GRID REFERENCE SN 909094.

KEY :

- DCWW LAND BOUNDARY
- PLANNING APPLICATION BOUNDARY AREA = 20710 SQ.MT.
- EXISTING PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY (PRoW)

Rev.	Date	BIM.	Description	Chk.	App.	Iss Date.
P01	22.05.25	GS	FOR INFORMATION	KM	PRC	26.01.26

Capital Delivery
Cynghrair Cyflawni

Project Name.
CEFN DRYSCOED DAF

Drawing Title.
SITE BOUNDARY PLAN

Suitability. FOR INFORMATION
Suitability Code. S2

Technician. GS
Originator. LC
Date. 22.05.25

Internal Project Number. DC24M800A
Scale. As Indicated @
Rev. P01

Drawing Number. B17545-123532-14- XX-DR-CA-PN1205

MMB
MOTT MACDONALD BENTLEY

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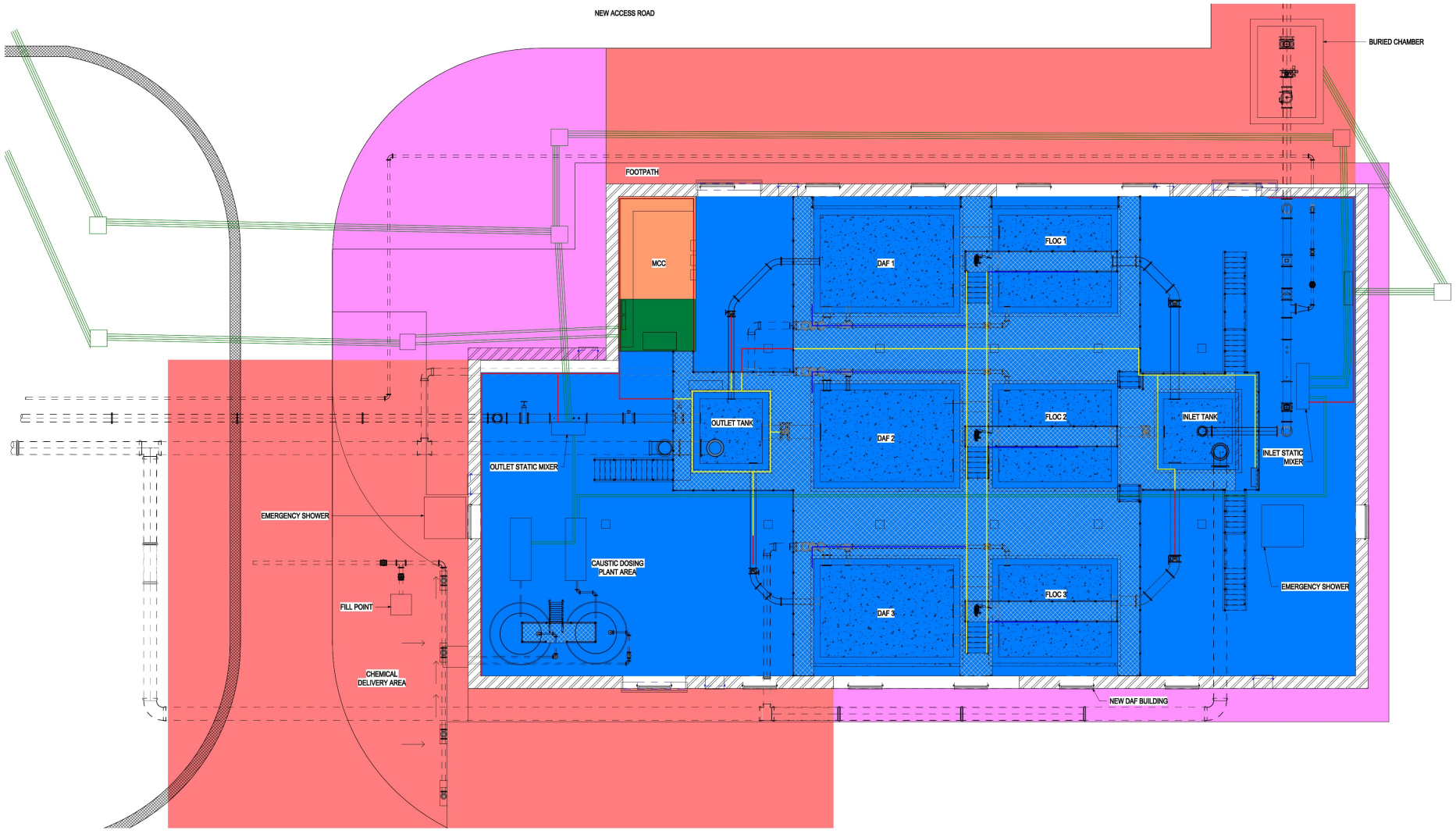

FLOOR PLAN

1 : 100

1:100 0 5m 10m

NOTES: A1h

1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE SHOWN IN MILLIMETRES (mm) UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
2. NO DIMENSIONS ARE TO BE SCALED FROM THIS DRAWING.
3. ALL ELEVATIONS ARE SHOWN IN METRES ABOVE DATUM (mAOD), UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
4. THIS DRAWING IS TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH ALL RELEVANT DRAWINGS & SPECIFICATIONS (e.g. LATEST VERSIONS OF DCWW, WIMES, CESWI SPECIFICATIONS).
5. LEGEND AS DEFINED IN WIMES 3.02 E, SECTION 3.2.1 TABLE 1 AND SECTION 3.3.2 TABLE 2.
6. ALL EXTERNAL LIGHTING SHALL CONSIST OF PIR SWITCHED BULKHEAD FITTINGS AND BE POINTED DOWNWARDS TO THE TASK AREAS. ALL INTERNAL LIGHT FITTINGS SHALL BE MANUALLY SWITCHED.
7. ALL INTERNAL LIGHTING SHALL HAVE EMERGENCY LIGHTING PROVISIONS. EMERGENCY LIGHTING ROUTES SHALL BE 2M WIDE WITH A 1LX MINIMUM ILLUMINANCE AT THE CENTRE LINE AND A DIVERSITY OF >40:1. THE LIGHTING WILL BE MAINTAINED FOR A 1 HOUR MINIMUM DURATION WITH A COLOUR RENDERING OF BETTER THAN RA 40 AND A RESPONSE TIME OF 5S FOR 50% DESIGN ILLUMINANCE AND 100% BY 60S.
8. ALL EXTERNAL LIGHTING SHALL BE COOL (2700K OR LOWER) ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE COLOUR RENDERING INDEX OF 60 IS MET.
9. IT IS PREFERRED FOR THE EXTERNAL LIGHTING WAVELENGTH TO BE HIGHER THAN 550NM DUE TO THE PRESENCE OF BATS NEAR TO THE AREA. THIS IS TO BE REVIEWED CLOSER TO THE DETAILED DESIGN STAGE OF THE LIGHTING ITSELF AND THE SELECTION OF SPECIFIC LIGHT FITTINGS.
10. COLUMN HEIGHTS SHALL BE DESIGNED TO AVOID LIGHT SPILL AS FAR AS PRACTICAL (HOODS/COWLS) IF NECESSARY. EXTERNAL LIGHT ON THE TOP CORNER OF THE BUILDING SHALL BE DIRECTED AWAY FROM THE HEDGE.

KEY :

- EXTERNAL PLANT AREAS - TASK LIGHTING, WORKING AREAS: EM 100x, UO 0.25, UGRL 50, CRI 60
- EXTERNAL MINOR ROADS AND PEDESTRIAN WALKWAYS BETWEEN PLANT AREAS: EM 100lx, UO 0.25, UGRL 50, CRI 60
- INTERNAL CONTROL ROOMS: EM 500lx, UO 0.7, UGRL16, CRI 80
- INTERNAL OFFICES: EM 300lx, UO 0.4, UGRL19, CRI 80
- INTERNAL PLANT ROOMS: EM 150lx, UO 0.4, UGRL 25, CRI 60

Rev.	Date	BIM.	Description	Chk.	App.	Iss Date.
P01	16.01.26	GS	FOR INFORMATION	KM	PRC	26.01.26

Capital Delivery Cynghrair Cyflawni

Project Name.
CEFN DRYSCOED DAF

Drawing Title.
LIGHTING PLAN

Suitability.	Suitability Code.
WORK IN PROGRESS	S0

Technician.	Originator.	Date.
GS	LC	16.01.26
Internal Project Number.	**Scale.**	**Rev.**
DC24MB00A	1 : 100 @ A1	P01.1

Drawing Number.
B17545-123532-14- ZZ-DR-EA-PN1225

MMB MOTT MACDONALD BENTLEY

B17545-123532-XX-XX-M3-ZA-B8952_detached.rvt

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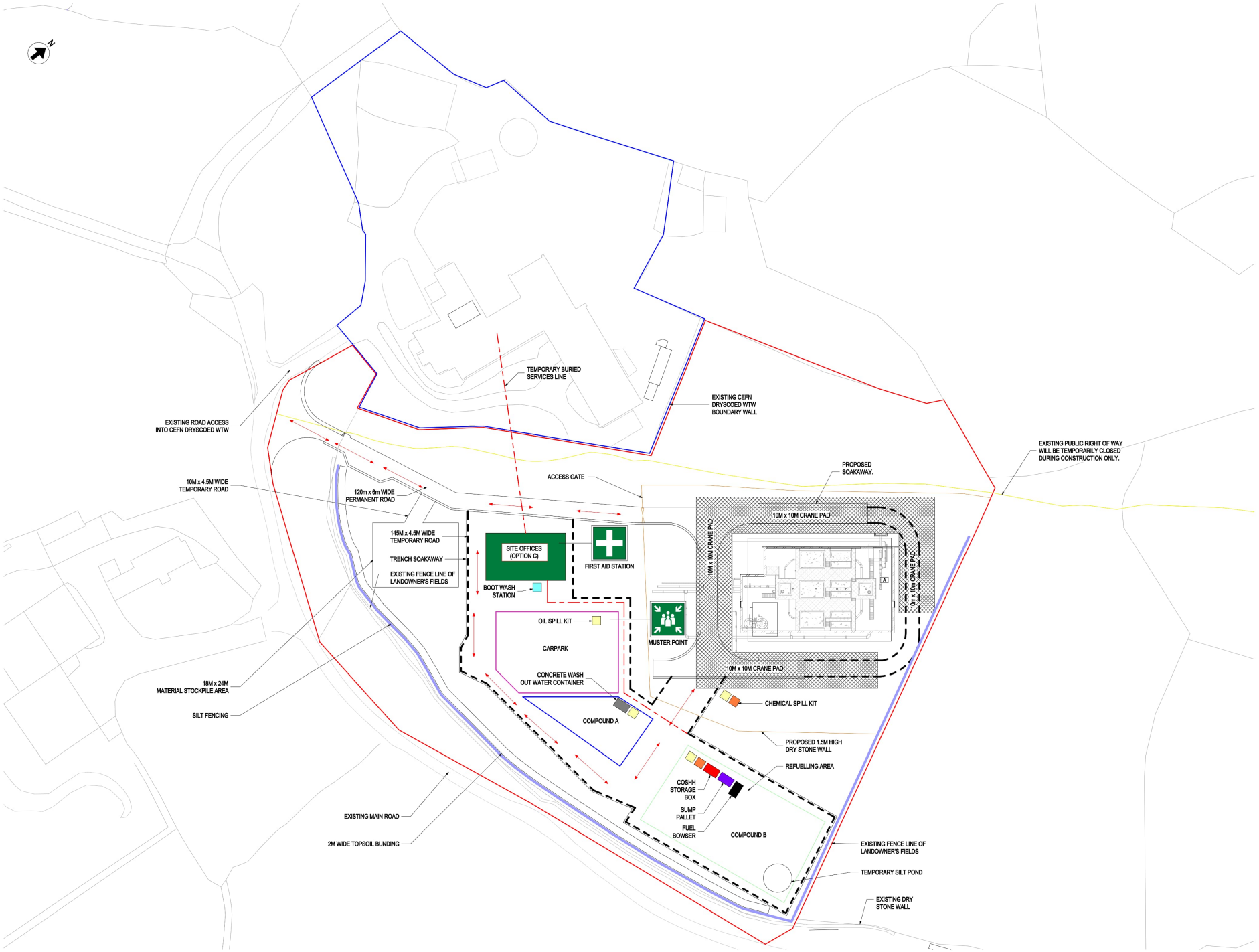

ENABLING WORKS LAYOUT PLAN

1 : 500

A1h

NOTES:

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   - B17545-123532-12-ZZ-DR-CA-PN1201 - PROPOSED WORKS SITE LAYOUT
   - B17545-123532-12-ZZ-DR-CA-PN1202 - PROPOSED CROSS SITE ELEVATIONS
   - B17545-123532-12-XX-DR-CA-PN1203 - ENABLING WORKS LAYOUT PLAN
6. TOTAL AREA OF TEMP ROAD/COMPOUND
   - 600m2
   - 1325m2
   - 575m2
   - 2380m2
   - TOTAL = 4880m2

Rev.	Date	BIM.	Description	Chk.	App.	Iss Date.
P01	08.01.26	GS	FOR INFORMATION	KM	PRC	26.01.26

Capital Delivery Cynghrair Cyflawni

Project Name.
CEFN DRYSCOED DAF

Drawing Title.
POLLUTION PREVENTION LAYOUT PLAN

Suitability.	Suitability Code.
FOR INFORMATION	S2

Technician.	Originator.	Date.
GS	LC	08.01.26
Internal Project Number.	**Scale.**	**Rev.**
DC24MB00A	1 : 500 @	P01

Drawing Number.
B17545-123532-14- ZZ-DR-NA-EI1220

MMB
MOTT MACDONALD BENTLEY

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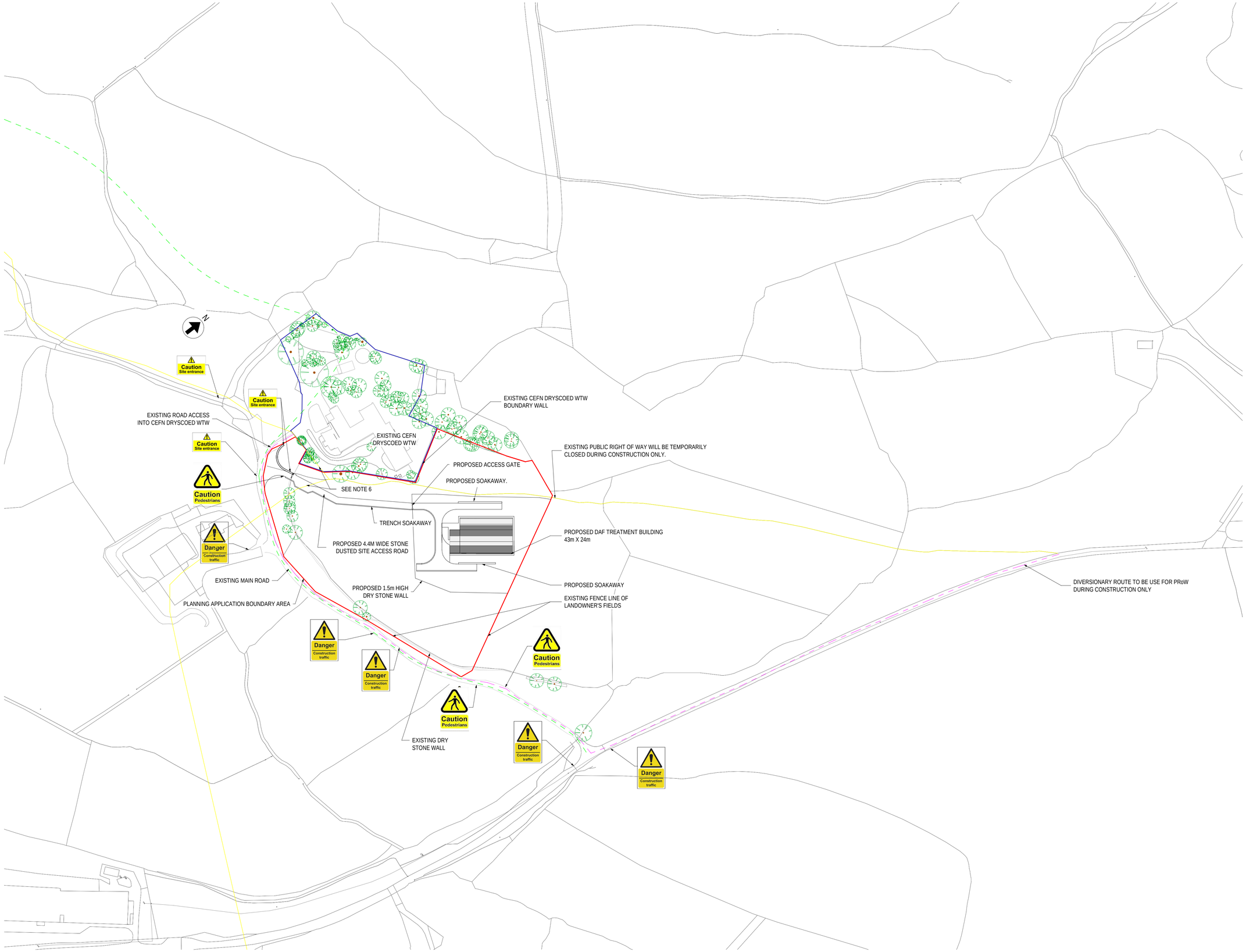

1:1250 0 62.5m 125m

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT LAYOUT PLAN

1 : 1250

NOTES:

A1h

1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE SHOWN IN MILLIMETRES (mm) UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
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   B17545-123532-12-ZZ-DR-CA-PN1202 - PROPOSED CROSS SITE ELEVATIONS
   B17545-123532-12-XX-DR-CA-PN1203 - ENABLING WORKS LAYOUT PLAN
6. THE EXISTING PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAYS AND BYWAY ROUTES ON THIS DRAWING ARE BASED ON THE BRECON BEACONS RIGHT OF WAY EXPLORER MAP (HTTPS://RIGHTSOFWAY.BEACONS-NPA.GOV.UK/). IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THESE PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAYS ROUTES MAY BE INACCURATE AS THEY DO NOT LEAD TO ANY PATH IN SOME LOCATIONS, SUCH AS AT THE HIGHWAYS JUNCTION AREA.

KEY :

- DCWW LAND BOUNDARY
- AREA OF PLANNING BOUNDARY
- EXISTING PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY (PRoW)
- BYWAY ROUTE
- TEMPORARY DIVERSIONARY ROUTE FOR PRoW

Rev.	Date	BIM.	Description	Chk.	App.	Iss Date.
P02	12.02.26	DAP	FOR INFORMATION	KM	PRC	12.02.26
P01	14.01.26	DAP	FOR INFORMATION	KM	PRC	26.01.26

Capital Delivery
Cynghrair Cyflawni

Project Name.
CEFN DRYSCOED DAF

Drawing Title.
TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT LAYOUT PLAN

Suitability.	Suitability Code.
FOR INFORMATION	S2

Technician.	Originator.	Date.
GS	LC	08.01.26
Internal Project Number.	Scale.	Rev.
DC24M800A	AS SHOWN	P02
Drawing Number.		MMB MOTT MACDONALD BENTLEY
B17545-123532-14- ZZ-DR-NA-EI1221		

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B. Brecon Beacons National Park Local Development Plan - Planning Policies

At a local level, planning policies are set out within 'Brecon Beacons National Park Local Development Plan' (Adopted 2013), whilst supplementary information is set out within 'Brecon Beacons National Park Authorities – Supplementary Planning Guidance Biodiversity and Development' (2016). The policies relevant to ecology are described below:

- **Policy 3: Sites of European Importance** - *Proposals for development which may have significant effects on a European Site or potential European Site, when considered alone or in combination with other plans or projects, will not be permitted unless*:
  - the proposed development is directly connected with or necessary for the protection, enhancement and positive management of the site for conservation purposes.
  - the proposed development will not adversely affect the conservation objectives associated with the site or the integrity of the site.
  - where the site supports interests not identified as a priority habitat or species, there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest why the development should proceed.
  - where the site supports priority habitats and/or species, there are reasons of human health, public safety, beneficial consequences of primary importance to the environment or other grounds for overriding public interest that can satisfy the requirements as to why the development should proceed.
  - with respect to points three and four above there is no alternative solution, and compensatory measures are secured to ensure that the overall coherence of the Natura 2000 network is protected.
- **Policy 4: Sites of National Importance** - *Proposals for development which may affect a National Nature Reserve or proposed or notified Site of Special Scientific Interest will only be permitted where:*
  - the proposal contributes to the protection, enhancement or positive management of the site; or
  - the developer proves to the satisfaction of the National Park Authority (NPA) that the proposal has no unacceptable impacts which would directly or indirectly damage the site, detrimentally affect its conservation interest or its value in terms of its designation; or
  - the need and reasons for the proposed development outweigh the value of the site itself; and there are no alternative means of meeting the need for the development.

  Where appropriate the NPA will consider the use of Planning Conditions and/or Planning Obligations to provide appropriate mitigation and / or compensatory measures.
- **Policy 5: Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation** – *Development on non-statutory sites of wildlife will only be permitted where:*
  - the need for the development outweighs the nature conservation importance of the site.
  - the proposals comply with Policy 6 and/or, where protected and important wild species are concerned, with Policy 7.

  Where appropriate the NPA will consider the use of Planning Conditions and/or Planning Obligations to provide appropriate mitigation and/or compensatory measures.
- **Policy 6: Biodiversity and Development** – *Development will only be permitted where*:

- the developer proves to the satisfaction of the NPA that there is no unacceptable loss or fragmentation or other impact of a habitat or landscape feature and/or increased isolation on important species as listed under Section 7 (Priority Habitats and Species), OR
- A - the developer identifies habitats and landscape features of importance for wildlife within the site and provides for the further creation, positive management, restoration, enhancement or compensation for these habitats and features to ensure that the site maintains its nature conservation importance.
- B - full provision is made for the future management of the site's habitats and features of nature conservation value. This will be secured either through Planning Obligations or the imposition of Planning Conditions.
- C - there is no unacceptable loss/breaching of linear features (e.g. hedgerows, woodland belts). Development should seek to enhance linear habitat features (e.g. hedgerow, woodland belts) 'dark corridors' and roosts used by bats.

The NPA will require all development being judged against this policy to provide biodiversity enhancement through the scheme in accordance with the direction of the Planning Obligation Strategy.

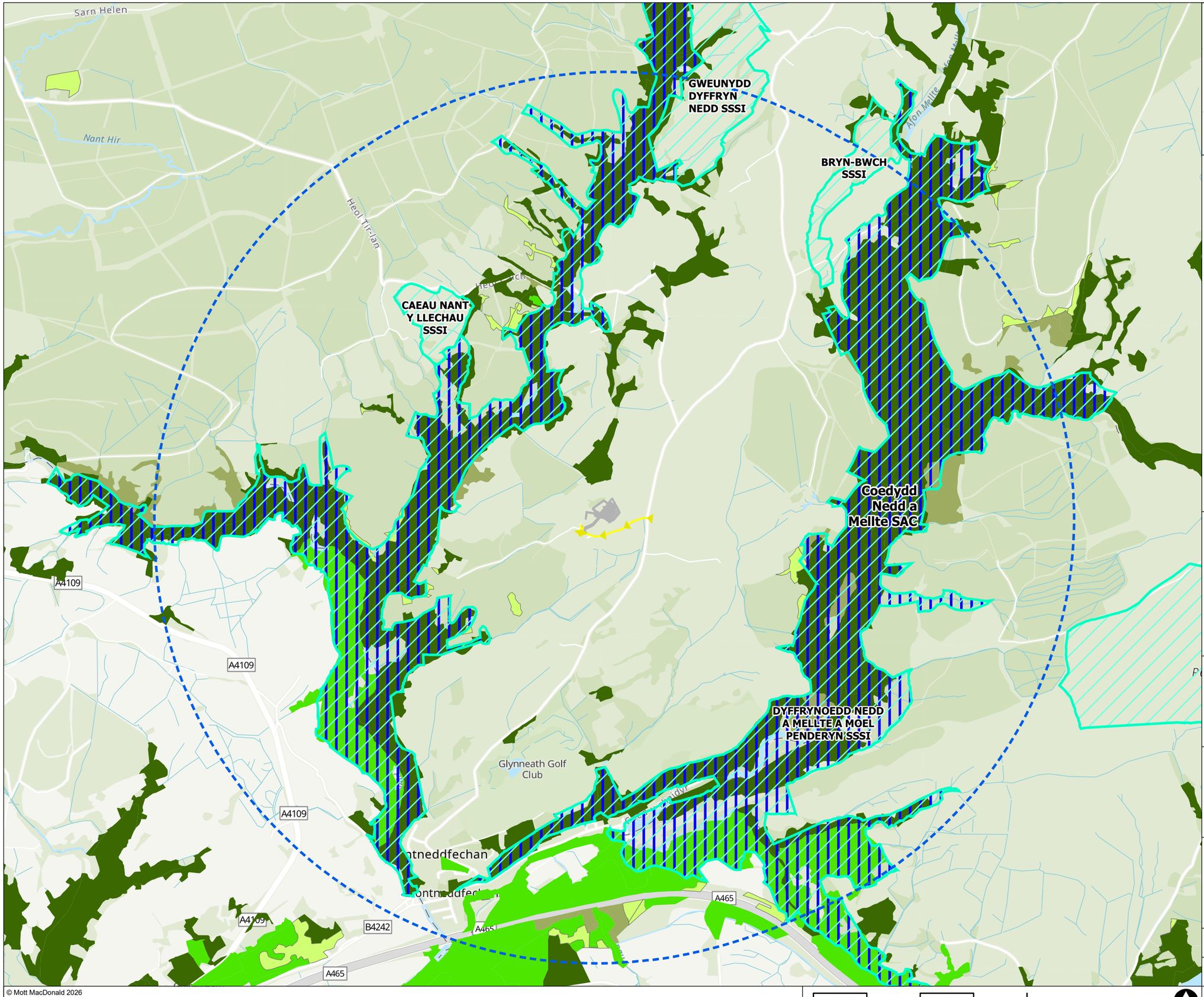
- **Policy 7: Protected and Important Wild Species** – *Proposals on land or buildings that support protected or important species will only be permitted where*:
  - the need for the development outweighs the nature conservation importance of the site, and in the case of European protected species, the criteria for derogation under the Habitats Regulations are met.
  - positive measures are provided to contribute to species and habitat conservation targets.
  - the developer proves to the satisfaction of the NPA that:
    - a) the disturbance of the species and habitat in terms of the effect on species survival and reproductive potential or habitat function will be kept to a minimum; or
    - b) alternative areas are provided to sustain at least the current levels of populations or size of habitat affected by the proposal.
- **Policy 8: Trees and Development** - *Proposals for development on sites containing trees will be required to provide a Tree Survey and a Tree Protection Plan in support of the proposal. Permission will be granted where the NPA is satisfied that*:
  - Trees and their root systems (including associated soil) are retained and adequately protected prior to, during and after development; and/or
  - Where the NPA agrees to the removal of trees as part of the development scheme, appropriate replacement must be provided on site utilising native trees of local provenance. A scheme for tree replacement, including details of planting and aftercare, shall be agreed with the NPA prior to the commencement of development.

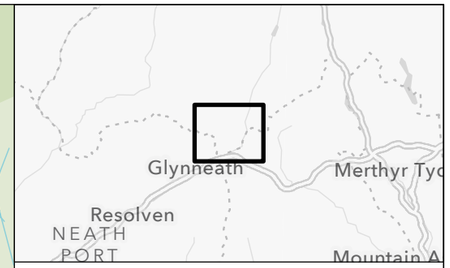
  The NPA will use Planning Conditions and/or Planning Obligations to secure any necessary mitigation / compensation / enhancement measures in relation to trees and development proposals.
- **Policy 9: Ancient Woodland and Veteran Trees** – *Proposal for development which would result in any of the following:*
  - the fragmentation or loss of ancient woodland; and/ or
  - the loss of an ancient or veteran tree; and/ or
  - ground damage, loss of understorey, or ground disturbance to an area of woodland or veteran tree's root protection area; and/ or
  - a reduction in the area of other semi-natural habitats adjoining ancient woodland; and/ or
  - significant alteration of the land use adjacent to ancient woodland; and/ or

- an increase in the likely exposure of ancient woodland or veteran tree to air, water or light pollution from the surrounding area; and/ or
- alter the hydrology in a way that might impact on ancient woodland, Ancient, or Veteran Trees; and/ or
- destroy important connecting habitats related to ancient woodlands; and/or
- degrade known archaeological or historical features within ancient woodlands or associated with veteran trees; and/or
- an area of high public use being placed near an ancient or veteran tree will only be granted planning permission where it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the NPA that the need for, and benefits of the development in that location, outweigh the loss or deterioration of the woodland habitat.

The NPA will use Planning Conditions and/or Planning Obligations to secure any necessary mitigation / compensation / enhancement measures required of any proposal which will impact on a Veteran Tree or Ancient Woodland. This may include the requirement for an Arboriculturist to supervise any construction work which is likely to impact on trees of significance.

C. Designated Sites Plan





- Works design
- Access track for construction traffic, utilizing existing road
- Desk study boundary - 2km

Designated sites

- Sites of special scientific interest (SSSI)
- Special areas of conservation (SAC)
- Ancient semi natural woodland
- Ancient woodland site of unknown category
- Plantation on ancient woodland site
- Restored ancient woodland site

Coordinate system: British National Grid; Datum: OSGB 1936

Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
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Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water

Cefn Drysgoed WTW

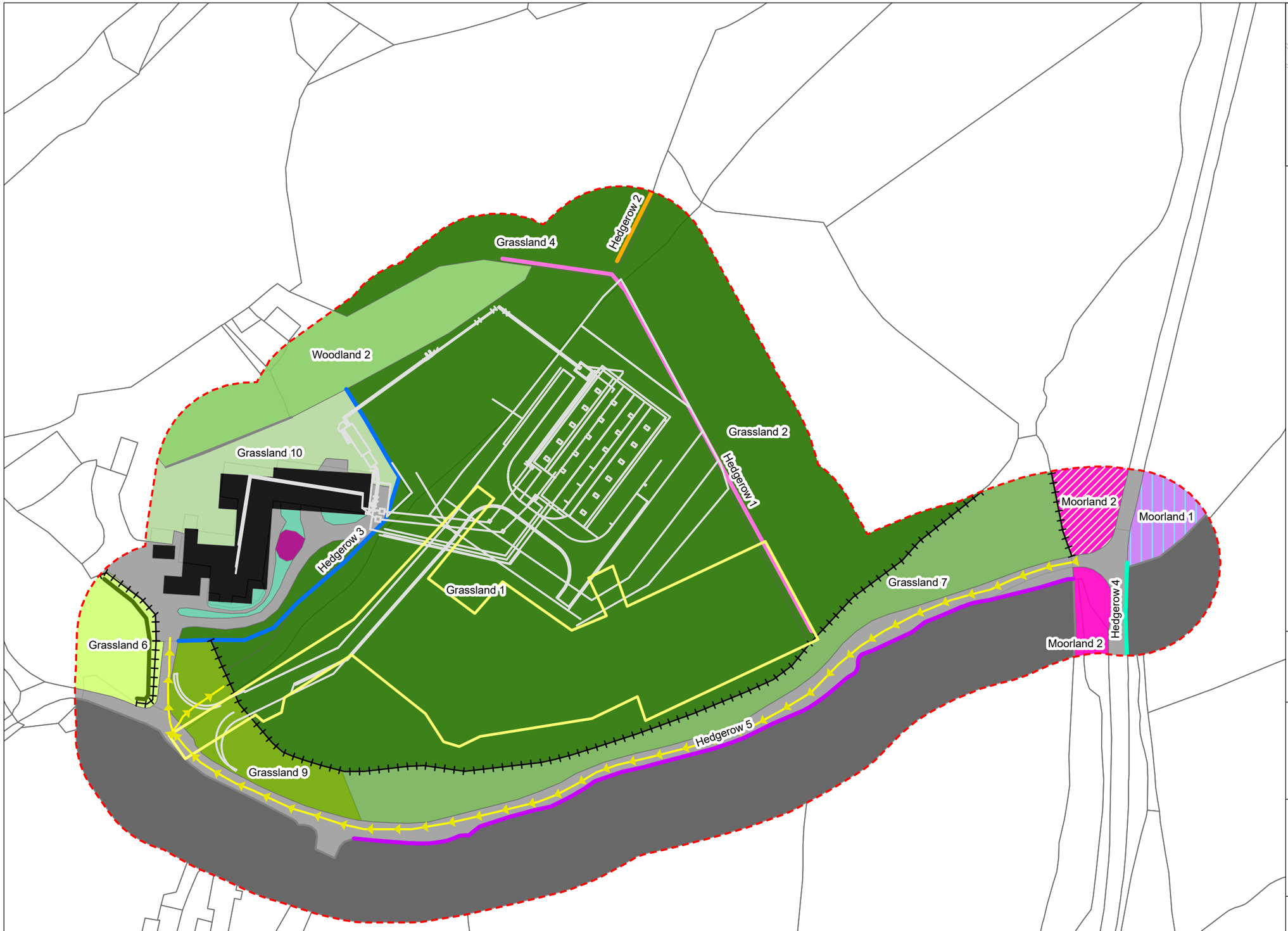
Designated Sites Map

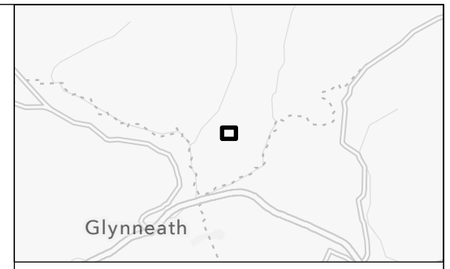
Drawn	GIS Checked	Checked	Approved
S Baldwin	H Clough	L Jepson	S Allen
Scale at A3	Status	Revision	Security
1:17,000	INF	01	STD

B17545-123532-14-ZZ-DR-NA-EI0003

0 250 500 750 1000 Metres

D. Baseline Habitat Plan





- Works design
- Access track for construction traffic, utilizing existing road
- Temporary Site Compound
- Scheme Data 30m Buffer
- h2a5, 11, 114 - species-rich native hedgerow with trees, dry stone wall
- h2a5, 111 612 - speicies rich native hedgerow, hedgebank, fence
- h2a5, 111, 116, 612 - species-rich native hedgerow, hedgebank, fence
- h2a5, 113, 116, 612 - species-rich native hedgerow, stone-faced bank, fence
- h2a5, 50, 612 - species-rich native hedgerow, ditch, fence
- u1e, 114 - built linear features, dry stone wall
- u1e, 612 - built linear features, fence
- u1e, 114, 612 - built linear features, dry stone wall, fence
- w, 33 - line of trees
- f2b 50 - purple moor grass and rush pastures, ditch
- f2b - purple moor grass and rush pastures
- g1a6 Other lowland dry acid grassland
- g3c 108 Other neutral grassland, frequently mown
- g3c 32 108, Other neutral grassland, scattered trees and frequently mown
- g3c6 Lolium-Cynosurus neutral grassland
- g4 10 16 32 - modified grassland, scattered scrub, tall, forbs, scattered trees
- g4 102 - modified grassland, sheep grazed
- g4 - modified grassland
- h1b6 50 - wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, upland (H4010), ditch
- h3 - dense scrub
- u1b5 - buildings
- u1b6 - other developed land
- w1f7 30 - other lowland mixed deciduous woodland, semi-natural woodland
- No Impact Anticipated

Coordinate system: British National Grid; Datum: OSGB 1936

Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
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Dŵr Cymru
Welsh Water

Cefn Dryscoed WTW
UK Habitat Classification Plan

Drawn	GIS Checked	Checked	Approved
L James	**D Evans**	**A Davies**	**S Allen**
Scale at A3	Status	Revision	Security
1:1,250	**INF**	**01**	**STD**

0 20 40 60 80 100 m

B17545-123532-14ZZ-DR-NA-EI0004

E. Desk Study

Records of a number of protected and/or notable species were returned within 2.0km of the Proposed Development. A summary of the records has been provided within Table E.1.

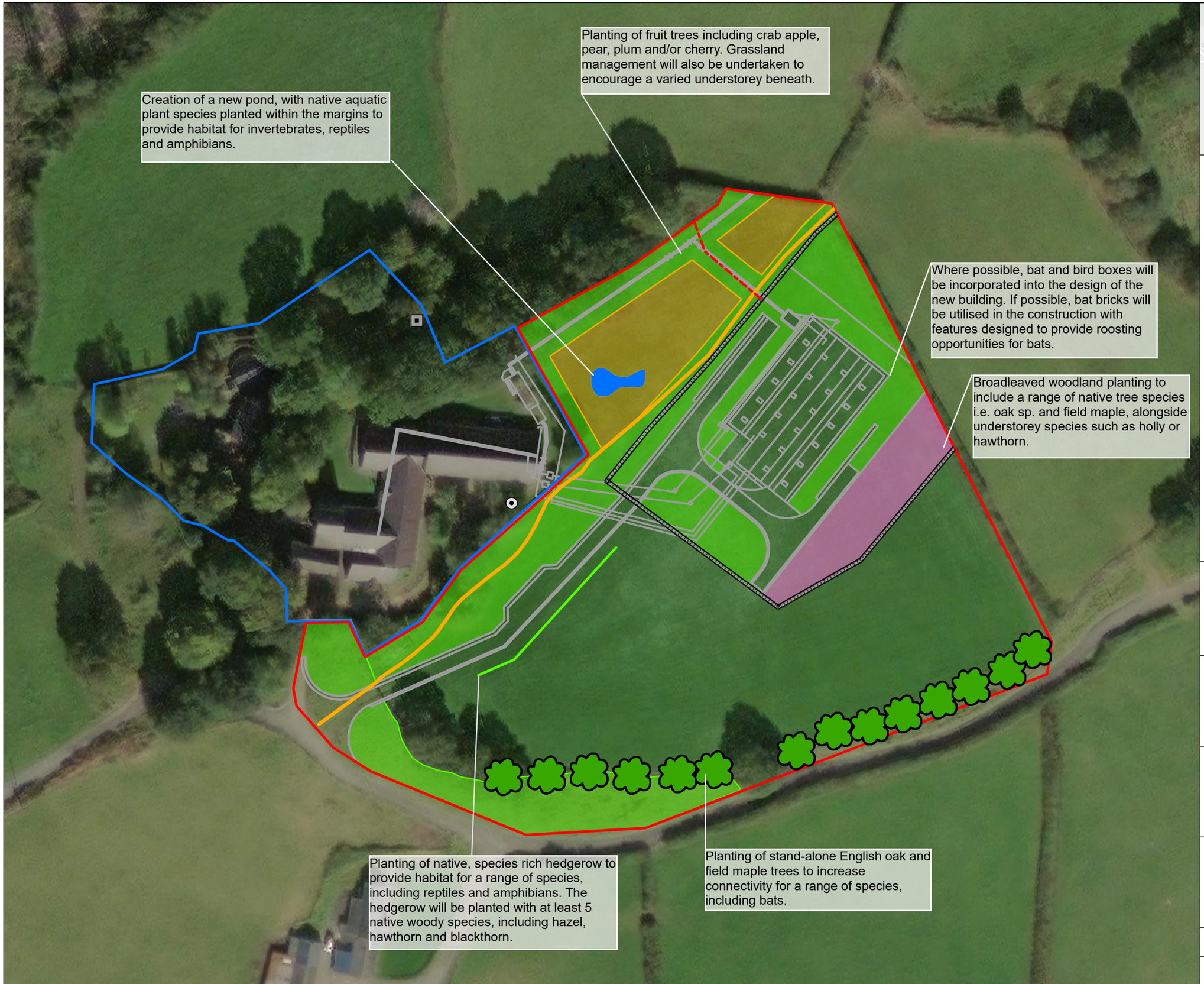
Table E.1: Summary of Biological Records within 2.0km

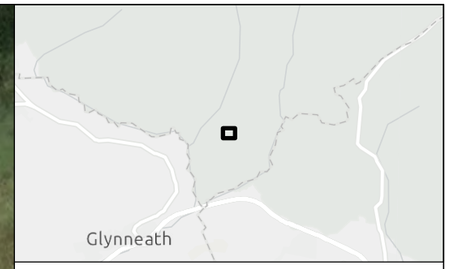
Species/ Species Group		Summary of Records within 2.0km
Birds		Records of 70 species of bird were returned within 2.0km of the Proposed Development. Of these nine species are listed on Schedule 1 of the 1981 Act, whilst 22 of the species returned are listed under Section 7 of the 2016 Act. The closest record of a Schedule 1 species was of Red Kite (*Milvus milvus*) 0.40km to the east.
Fish		No records of fish were returned within 2.0km of the Proposed Development, within the last 10 years. Subsequently, a search of historic records was undertaken, resulting in 19 records of Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*), 31 records of brown trout (*Salmo trutta*), 18 records of bullhead (*Cottus gobio*) and 10 records of European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*). The closest record returned was of brown trout 0.73km to the northwest.
Mammals	Bats	In total, 82 records of 14 species/species groups of bats were returned within 2.0km of the Proposed Development. Including 31 records of roosting bats of nine species/species groups (including three hibernation roosts and two maternity roosts); common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*), Soprano pipistrelle (Pipistrellus pygmaeus), *Pipistrellus* sp., brown long-eared bat (*Plecotus auritus*), Daubenton's bat (*Myotis daubentonii*), *Myotis* sp., Brandt's bat (*Myotis brandtii*), lesser horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*) and greater horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*). A review of previous survey work undertaken identified records of a common pipistrelle maternity roost; a brown long-eared day roost and a soprano pipistrelle day roost, within the existing WTW buildings (Arcadis, 2021 and Apem 2018). In addition to the species listed above, field records of bat activity of the following species were also returned; Barbastelle bat (*Barbastella barbastellus*), Whiskered bat (*Myotis mystacinus*), Natterer's bat (*Myotis nattereri*), noctule bat (*Nyctalus noctula*), Nathusius' pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus nathusii*) and soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*). The closest record of a bat roost is of brown long-eared roost, within the footprint of the Proposed Development.
	Badger	One record of badger was returned within 2.0km of the Proposed Development, consisting of a road casualty along the A465 to the south of the Proposed Development. The closest record was returned 1.9km to the south.
	Hazel dormouse	No records of hazel dormouse (*Muscardinus avellanarius*) were returned within 2.0km of the Proposed Development, within the last 10 years. Subsequently, a search of historic records was undertaken, with no records returned.
	European hedgehog	Two records of European hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*) were returned within 2.0km of the Proposed Development, consisting of two live sightings. The closest record was returned 1.8km to the south west.
	Otter	Four records of otter (*Lutra lutra*) were returned within 2.0km of the Proposed Development, consisting of a field sign along the river Hepste 1.6km to the east; and a live sighting of two adults along the river Melte, 1.4km to the south; live sighting at Sgwd y Pannwr 1.4km north east of the Proposed Development.
	Water vole	No records of water vole (*Arvicola amphibius*) were returned within 2.0km of the Proposed Development, within the last 10 years. Subsequently, a search of historic records was undertaken, with no records returned.
	Other mammals	One record of stoat (*Mustela erminea*), a live sighting, was returned 1.3km to the south west; and one record of weasel (*Mustela nivalis*), a live sighting, was returned 1.9km to the south of the Proposed Development.

Species/ Species Group		Summary of Records within 2.0km
Herpetofauna	Amphibians	Four records of common frog (*Rana temporaria*), eight records of common toad (*Bufo bufo*) and two records of palmate newt (*Lissotriton helveticus*), were returned within 2.0km of the Proposed Development. The closest record returned was of common toad 1.3km to the north east. No records of great crest newt (*Triturus cristatus*) were returned within 2.0m of the Proposed Development. Subsequently, a search of historic records was undertaken, with no records returned.
	Reptiles	Three records of common lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*) and one record of slow-worm (*Anguis fragilis*), were returned within 2.0km of the Proposed Development. The closest record returned was of slow-worm 1.4km to the south east.
Invertebrates		Records of 65 species of invertebrates were returned within 2.0km of the Proposed Development, including 30 species listed under Section 7 of the 2016 Act. The closest record returned was of small phoenix (*Ecliptopera silaceata*), 1.0km to the north west. No records of the protected butterfly species marsh fritillary were returned within the last 10 years. Subsequently, a search of historic records was undertaken which returned 30 records.
Vascular plants		Records of 17 species of vascular plants were returned within 2.0km of the Proposed Development. Of these two species are listed on Schedule 8 of the 1981 Act, bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) and Killarney fern (*Trichomanes speciosum*). One species is listed on Section 7 of the 2016 Act, lobed maidenhair spleenwort (*Asplenium trichomanes* subsp. *pachyrachis*) which is also listed as Red-List Near Threatened in Great Britain and Red-List Endangered in Wales. The closest record returned was of bluebell 0.79km to the north.
Bryophytes		Records of 58 bryophyte species were returned within 2.0km of the Proposed Development, including Irish daltonia (*Daltonia splachnoides*) which is listed on Section 7 of the 2016 Act and is listed as Vulnerable on the Red-List for Great Britain. The nearest record of this species was returned 1.29km to the north east. Records of scarce turf-moss (*Rhytidiadelphus subpinnatus*), listed as Near Threatened on the Red-List for Great Britain were also returned, with the closest record 0.82km to the south west.
Fungi		Two records of fungi were returned within 2.0km of the Proposed Development, within the last 10 years. Meadow waxcap (*Cuphophyllus pratensis*) and *Entoloma conferendum* both were recorded 0.52km from the proposed development. Subsequently, a search of historic records was undertaken, resulting in historic records for three species of fungi; *Arthopyrenia desistens*, wrinkled peach (*Rhodotus palmatus*) and *Stenocybe septate*. The closest record returned was of *Stenocybe septate* 1.0km to the north.
Lichens		Records of three species of lichen were returned within 2.0km of the Proposed Development, consisting of *Sticta limbata, Peltigera horizontalis,* and the Section 7 species *Usnea articulata.* The closest record was returned for *Usnea articulata* 1.3km to the north east.

Source: BIS, 2023; Mott MacDonald Bentley, 2026

F. Compensation and Enhancement Plan





- Planning application boundary, land to be purchased by DCWW
- Cefn Drysgoed WTW, existing DCWW land ownership'
- Bat box
- Hibernacula
- Line of trees
- Works Design
- Public footpath
- Dry stone wall
- Farm Access
- Native hedgerow planting
- Grassland Management
- Orchard Planting
- Pond
- Woodland Planting

Coordinate system: British National Grid; Datum: OSGB 1936

Data sources: Survey data and Work plans: Mott MacDonald (2025).

Microsoft, Vantor, Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

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Cefn Dryscoed DAF

Habitat Enhancement Plan

Drawn	GIS Checked	Checked	Approved
LJ	DE	AD	SA
Scale at A3	Status	Revision	Security
1:1,000	INF	01	STD

0 20 40 60 80 m

B17545-123532-14ZZ-DR-NA-EI0004