

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

Eich cyfeirnod
Your reference

P/25/0330

By email

Ein cyfeirnod
Our reference

Planning.DC@merthyr.gov.uk

Dyddiad
Date

19 December 2025

Llinell uniongyrchol
Direct line

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Ebost
Email:

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Dear Sir/Madam

Planning Application – Works to roof including new walkways, fixed ladder access, new insulation and associated parapet and clerestory windows, installation of new gutters and replacement of rainwater goods, works to external elevation to include replacement windows, new doors and repair or replacement of lintels and internal works to include the installation of new steel beams, repairs to timber reinforcements, new loft access hatch and bat boxes, Cyfarthfa Castle, Cyfarthfa Park, Merthyr Tydfil

Thank you for your letter of 15 December inviting our comments on the information submitted for the above planning application.

This response is based on the advice provided by Cadw's Senior Historic Environment Planning Officer.

Advice

Having carefully considered the information provided, we have no objection to the proposed development in regards to the scheduled monuments or registered historic park and garden listed in our assessment of the application below.

The national policy and Cadw's role in planning are set out in Annex A.

Assessment

This is a listed building consent application for works to the roof at Cyfarthfa Castle, Cyfarthfa Park, Merthyr Tydfil.

Scheduled Monuments

GM424 Pont y Cafnau Tramroad Bridge
GM425 Remains of Blast Furnaces, Cyfarthfa Ironworks
GM478 Gurnos Quarry Tramroad & Leat
GM479 Tai Mawr Leat for Cyfarthfa Iron Works
GM486 Iron Canal Bridge from Rhydycar



The above scheduled monuments are located inside 1km of the proposed development, but intervening topography, buildings and vegetation block all views between them. Consequently, the proposed development will have no impact on the settings of these scheduled monuments.

Registered Park and Garden

PGW(Gm)1(MER) Cyfarthfa Castle

The castle is situated inside the registered Cyfarthfa Castle historic park and garden. This advice relates to the impact of the proposed works on the registered historic park and garden, advice on the impact on the listed building will be given by the LPA's Conservation Officer.

The application is accompanied by a Heritage Impact Assessment produced by Purcells. This explains the proposed works and explains that most of the works will not be visible from the historic park and garden. Where visible changes are being made such as to the windows, these will be replaced with similar designs and materials. It concludes that these impacts will be minimal on the registered historic park and garden and that the protection of the fabric of the building, which is central to the historic interest of the registered historic park and garden will outweigh these effects. We concur with this conclusion.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Cooper

Historic Environment Inspectorate / Arolygiaeth yr Amgylchedd Hanesyddol

Annex A

Our role

Our statutory role in the planning process is to provide the local planning authority with an assessment concerned with the likely impact that the proposal will have on scheduled monuments, registered historic parks and gardens, registered historic landscapes where an Environmental Impact Assessment is required and development likely to have an impact on the outstanding universal value of a World Heritage Site. We do not provide an assessment of the likely impact of the development on listed buildings or conservation areas, as these are matters for the local authority.

It is for the local planning authority to weigh our assessment against all the other material considerations in determining whether to approve planning permission.

National Policy

Applications for planning permission are considered in light of the Welsh Government's land use planning policy and guidance contained in Planning Policy Wales (PPW), Technical Advice Notes and related guidance.

PPW [Planning Policy Wales - Edition 12 \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales/planning-policy-wales-edition-12) explains that it is important that the planning system looks to protect, conserve and enhance the significance of historic assets. This will include consideration of the setting of an historic asset which might extend beyond its curtilage. Any change that impacts on an historic asset or its setting should be managed in a sensitive and sustainable way.

The conservation of archaeological remains and their settings is a material consideration in determining a planning application, whether those remains are a scheduled monument or not. Where nationally important archaeological remains are likely to be affected by proposed development, there should be a presumption in favour of their physical protection in situ. It will only be in exceptional circumstances that planning permission will be granted if development would result in a direct adverse impact on a scheduled monument (or an archaeological site shown to be of national importance)

[Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment](#) elaborates by explaining that when considering development proposals that affect scheduled monuments or other nationally important archaeological remains, there should be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation in situ, i.e. a presumption against proposals which would involve significant alteration or cause damage, or would have a significant adverse impact causing harm within the setting of the remains.

Historic Parks and Gardens

PPW also explains that local authorities should value, protect, conserve and

enhance the special interests of parks and gardens and their settings included on the register of historic parks and gardens in Wales and that the effect of a proposed development on a registered park or garden or its setting should be a material consideration in the determination of a planning application.