

PURCELL

CYFARTHFA CASTLE

PLANNING APPLICATION FOR NORTH, WEST AND SOUTH DRAINAGE WORKS

ACCESS STATEMENT

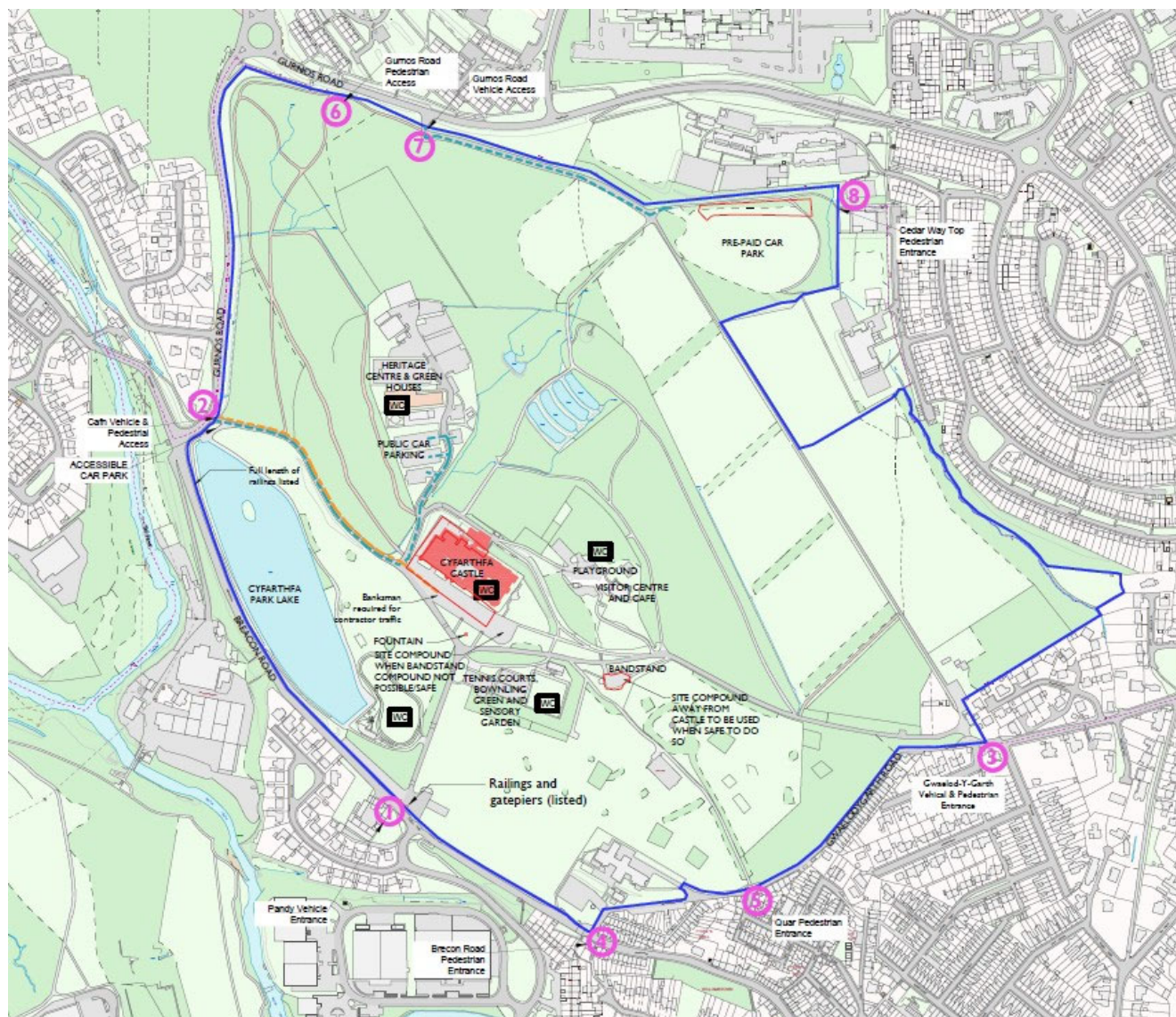
May 2025

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1. INTRODUCTION

This Access Statement accompanies the Planning application for the proposed drainage works at Cyfarthfa Castle and Park. These works aim to resolve significant drainage challenges while maintaining public access to this important historic and community site. The part of the document outlines how access for all visitors, including those with additional needs, will be preserved during and after the proposed works.



Cyfarthfa Castle Park – Access Plan

Not to scale, refer to accompanying documents for scaled version.

- APPROXIMATE SITE BOUNDARY (PARK)
- ⊗ SITE ENTRANCE
- - - PUBLIC CAR ROUTE
- - - SUGGESTED CONTRACTOR VEHICULAR ROUTE
- LISTED STRUCTURE
- WC CURRENT TOILET PROVISION

2. TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT

Cyfarthfa Park is located north of Merthyr Tydfil town centre, easily accessible by road, bus, and foot:

- **By Foot:** A 20-minute walk from the town centre.
- **By Bus:** Regular bus services (Pontsticill and Trefechan routes) stop at the park gates.
- **By Car:**
 - From the south: Follow the M4 to Junction 32, then north on the A470.
 - From the north: Follow the A470 from Brecon.
 - From the Midlands: Follow the A465 from Abergavenny

3. PARKING

Ample **free parking** is available, with spaces for disabled visitors near key entrances. This includes several key parking areas, including:

- Disabled parking bays near the Gurnos Road entrance.
- Public car park north of the Castle.
- Pre-paid car park northeast of the Castle.

Access to the public and pre-paid car parks will be maintained throughout the works, ensuring availability for visitors.

4. FACILITIES

Toilets

Access to the toilet facilities within the site boundary some of the toilet facilities within the park will remain open during the works. These include:

- Toilets near the **Park Lake**, including accessible WC.
- **Heritage Centre & Greenhouses**.
- **Toilets in Playground**, and **Visitor Centre**, including accessible WC and changing area).

5. ACCESS POINTS

5.1 EXISTING PROVISION

Cyfarthfa Park is served by eight main access points:

- Cedar Way (pedestrian)
- Gurnos Road (vehicle)
- Gurnos Road (pedestrian, separate from vehicle access)
- Cafn (vehicle and pedestrian)
- Pandy (vehicle)
- Brecon Road (pedestrian)
- Quar (pedestrian)
- Gwaelod-Y-Garth (vehicle and pedestrian)

5.2 ACCESS DURING CONSTRUCTION

Pedestrian Access

The **Pandy** entrance and **Gwaelod-Y-Garth entrance** will remain open during the works and provide vehicle access to the car parks, the remaining entrances will also remain operational. This ensures that multiple vehicle and pedestrian access points are distributed across the site.

Clear, accessible signage will direct visitors safely around active work zones.

Contractor Access

To ensure that contractor access during the drainage improvement works at Cyfarthfa Park does not disrupt public use or compromise safety, the following measures are to be implemented.

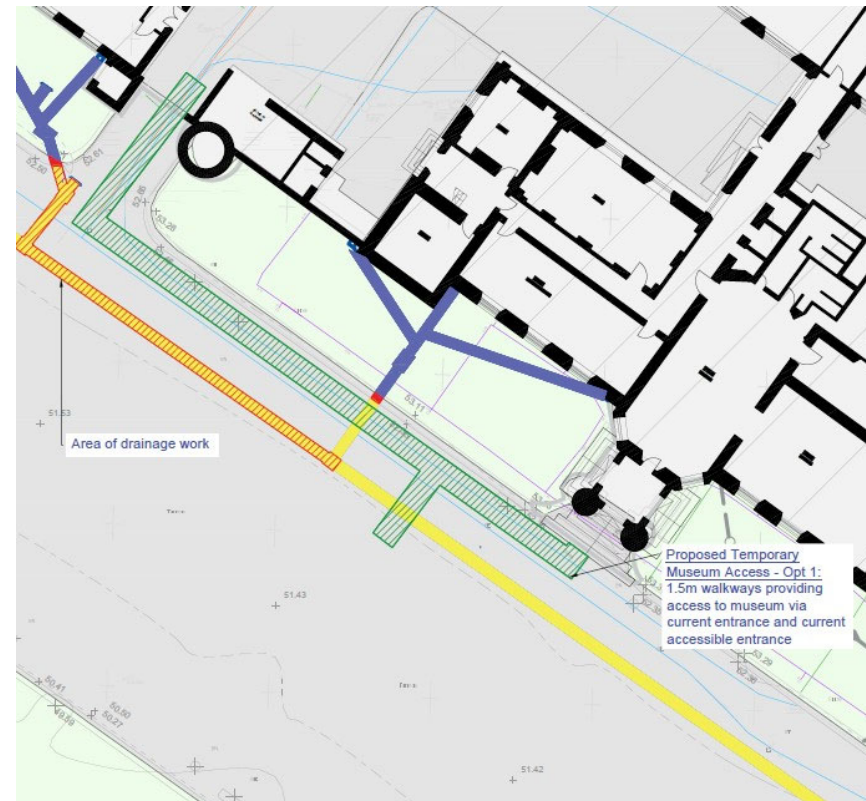
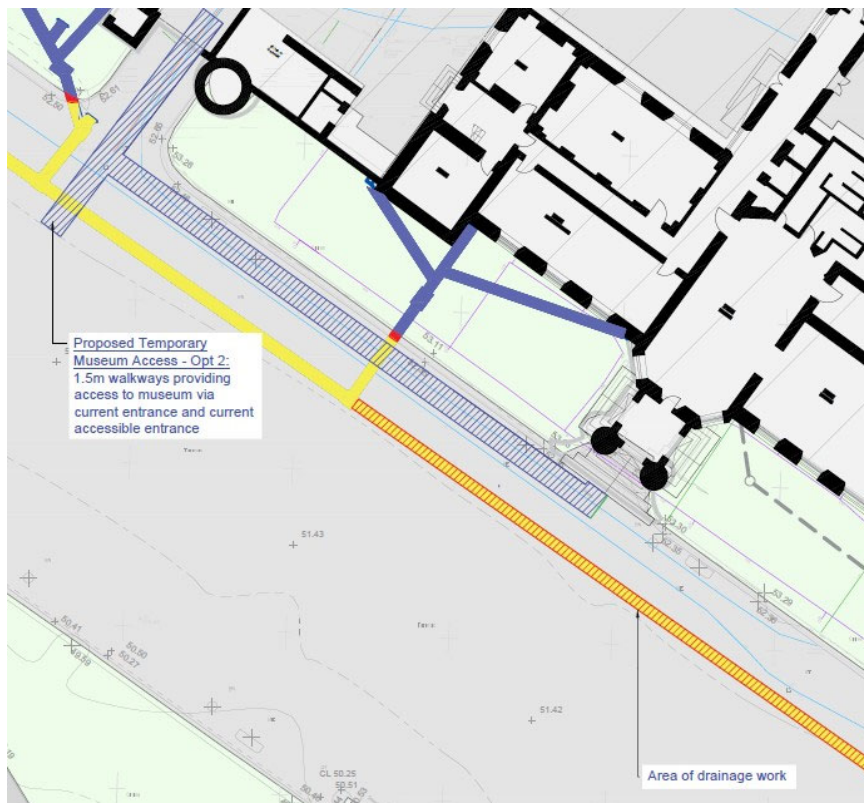
1. **Clear Signage and Barriers:** Erect prominent signs and physical barriers around construction zones to inform visitors of restricted areas and guide them safely around the site.
2. **Scheduling During Off-Peak Hours:** Endeavour to plan deliveries during times of low visitor traffic, as far as reasonably possible, to reduce potential disruptions and enhance safety.
3. **Regular Communication:** Provide timely updates to the public regarding construction progress, any changes to park access, and expected completion dates through various channels, including on-site notices.
4. **Adequate Lighting:** Install sufficient lighting around construction zones, especially if work extends into early mornings or late evenings, to ensure visibility and safety for both workers and visitors.
5. **Environmental Considerations:** Implement measures to control dust, noise, and other environmental impacts to maintain a pleasant experience for park visitors during construction.

5.3 MUSUEM ACCESS – DURING CONSTRUCTION

The Museum will continue to stay open during the works.

Accessible entrance

A temporary walkway is to be put in place during the works to ensure that the main entrance and accessible entrance can both remain open.



6. LONG-TERM BENEFITS

The proposed drainage works at Cyfarthfa Castle and Park are designed to enhance accessibility by:

- **Reducing Flooding:** Improving stormwater management by removing surface water from the combined sewer system and attenuating the surface water as it eventually discharges into the River Taff.
- **Protecting Infrastructure:** Safeguarding the Castle from water damage will preserve their structural integrity, supporting their long-term usability and accessibility.
- **Maintaining a Safe Environment:** Effective drainage contributes to a safer park environment, reducing hazards associated with water accumulation and promoting inclusivity for visitors of all abilities.

7. CONCLUSION

By addressing current drainage issues, the project aims to provide a more accessible and enjoyable experience for all visitors, preserving the heritage value of Cyfarthfa Castle and Park while promoting inclusivity. Additionally, protecting the Castle and park infrastructure from water damage will maintain the site's historical integrity, allowing future generations to appreciate its cultural significance. Throughout the construction phase, measures will be implemented to minimize disruptions to visitors. Clear signage and alternative routes will be provided to guide visitors safely around any temporary obstacles, ensuring continuous access to key areas of the park.

This project reflects a commitment to maintaining Cyfarthfa Castle and Park as a cherished community asset and a significant cultural landmark.

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