

MERTHYR RAIL STATION

ROOF NESTING BIRDS SURVEY REPORT

JULY 2023



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Merthyr Rail Station
Roof Nesting Birds Survey Report

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Non-Technical Summary

Site Location	Merthyr Rail Station, Merthyr Tydfil
Proposed Development	Improving access between the rail and bus station, public space, and buildings within the site.
Purpose of survey/s	To identify ecological constraints to the development relating to roof nesting breeding birds.
Dates of survey and names of surveyors	23/03/2023 – Tara Okon (Ecologist) & Emma Carney (Senior Ecologist) 17/04/2023 – Tara Okon (Ecologist) & Megan Watts (Ecologist) 15/05/2023 – Tara Okon (Ecologist) & Megan Watts (Ecologist) 20/06/2023 – Tara Okon (ecologist) & Natalie Pyatt (Ecologist Technician)
Overview of Results	- One nationally protected statutory designated site, namely Cwm Glo a Glyndyrys SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) lay within 1 km, located approximately 700 m south-west. - Three non-statutory designated sites (i.e., Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)) with relevance to breeding bird species lay within 1 km of the site. Taff & Rhondda Rivers SINC was the closest located approximately 190 m west of the site. - The site lay within a Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council Conservation Area. 30 species of bird were recorded during the surveys; two of these were confirmed as breeding within the survey area. A further two species were recorded breeding just outside the survey area. - Six confirmed breeding bird territories and at least four probable breeding territories were identified within the survey area. - No breeding territories for species of high or medium conservation concern were recorded in the survey area. House sparrow a species of high conservation concern was recorded breeding just outside the survey area. - Breeding species recorded within the survey area were considered of site level importance in terms of nature conservation value. - A breeding sand martin colony was recorded within the retaining wall proposed for demolition/rebuilding. Sand martins are known to nest in low numbers within East Glamorgan. - The site is considered of site level importance in terms of nature conservation value for breeding birds.
Mitigation	- Works will be carried out between September and February inclusive to avoid disturbance to breeding birds. If works are to be carried out outside this period, an ecologist will be employed to survey for nest sites immediately prior to works commencing. - Feral pigeon nests with eggs and/or young can be legally removed if a general licence is obtained and guidelines for humane disposal followed. If an active feral pigeon nest is suspected advice will first be obtained from an ecologist to confirm identification.

	• Pollution control measures should be in place to ensure the River Taff SINC and any other watercourses are protected. Pollution control measures will be detailed within a Risk Management Plan. • Avoid siting plant/machinery, compounds and access routes in habitat identified in this report as most suitable for bird species to nest. Discuss appropriate locations with an ecologist with ornithological experience before commencement of works. • A tool-box talk is required prior to commencement of works to ensure appropriate action is taken if protected bird species are unexpectedly encountered. • Incorporation of 12 artificial nesting sites for sand martins in new retaining wall. Created from concrete or clay pipes of 50 cm in length (up to maximum 1 m) and 6 cm internal diameter, placed at least 30 cm apart. Ideally, filled with sand for tunnelling with the entrance half-blocked with cement.
Compensation and enhancement	• Habitat creation - Planting of locally sourced tree/shrub species such as hawthorn, hazel, bird cherry and/or holly within public spaces to provide habitat for foraging, sheltering, and nesting birds. Thereby, also making the area more aesthetically pleasing for visitors, residents, and workers in the area. • Installation of one house sparrow terrace nest box; three starling nest boxes; and two swift nest boxes to create breeding habitat for Red-listed UK & Wales species.

1. Introduction

Redstart was commissioned by Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council (MTCBC) to carry out a roof nesting breeding bird survey for the proposed redevelopment of Merthyr Rail Station and surrounding area.

The approximate central location of the site lies to the west of the station at grid reference SO 0496 0597.

The breeding bird survey was carried out to identify any ecological constraints related to roof nesting breeding birds to the proposed works and this report includes details of the survey methodology, results, a discussion of the results and contains recommendations for further survey/ mitigation where appropriate.

1.1 Site Description

The site is located within the town centre of Merthyr Tydfil and predominantly comprises a mix of retail shops, public houses, and restaurants.

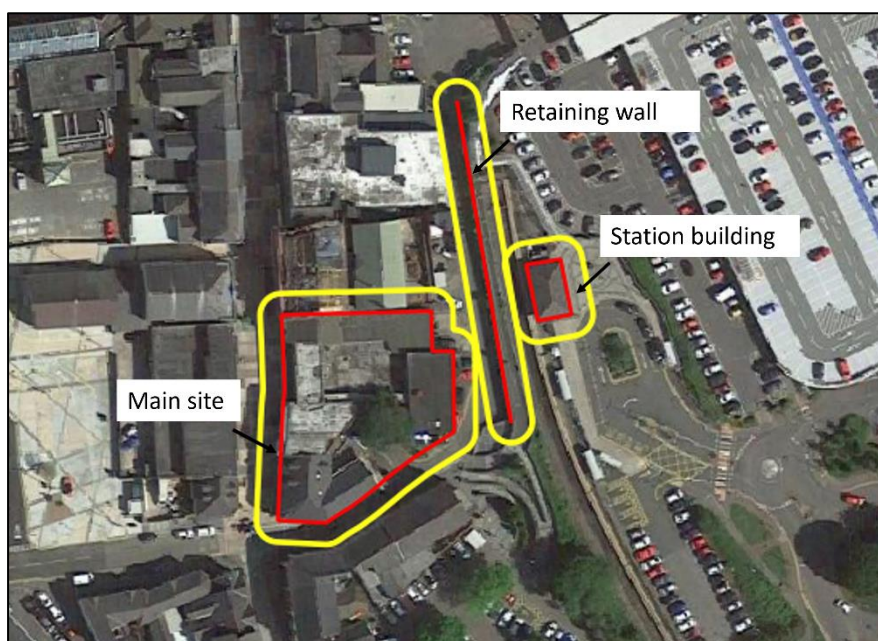
Merthyr Rail Station and associated carpark lie to the east of the site with the railway line running north – south on a viaduct, terminating at the north of the site.

The western section of the site lies adjacent to the bus depot.

The wider area is dominated by retail outlets and residential properties. The River Taff lies approximately 190 m to the west of the site boundary, providing an important wildlife corridor through the area.

The location of the proposed works is illustrated in Figure 1 and hereafter referred to as 'the site'. The site has been further divided into the 'main site', the 'station building', and the 'retaining wall' as illustrated in Figure 1. The wider area surveyed during the surveys includes the site area and up to 5 m radius (survey boundary) around the site referred to as the 'survey area'.

Figure 1: Merthyr Rail Station site highlighted with red boundary plus 5 m radius (yellow). Adapted from Google Earth (Google Earth, 2023).



1.2 Proposed Works

Re-development is proposed with the aim of improving access between the rail and bus station and improving public space and buildings within the site.

Works planned include:

- Demolition of Merthyr Rail Station ticket office building and construction of a new structure
- Demolition and re-construction of the existing retaining wall between Masonic Street and Merthyr Rail Station
- Demolition of several buildings on High Street, west of Merthyr Rail Station, to facilitate the re-development scheme.

2. Methodology

The following resources were accessed for information regarding roof-nesting breeding bird records and their distribution in the study area;

- South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre (SEWBrEC, 2023)
- British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) Birdtrack
- East Glamorgan Bird Atlas 2007-11. (Glamorgan Bird Club, 2014)
- Eastern Glamorgan Bird Report No.60 (Glamorgan Bird Club, 2021)

For the purpose of this report records were concentrated on, but not limited to, bird species listed in Table 1 which are habitually known to nest within and on buildings and roof-spaces:

Table 1: Bird species known to nest within and on buildings and roof-spaces.

Common name	Scientific name
Common swift	<i>Apus apus</i>
Feral pigeon	<i>Columba livia domestica</i>
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>
Lesser black-backed gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>
Barn owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>
Little owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>
Common kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
Peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
House martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
Black redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
Common redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>
House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Pied wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>

2.1 Field Survey

A breeding bird survey was undertaken using a combination of methodology broadly based on the British Trust for Ornithology's (BTO) Common Bird Census (CBC) and measures used to determine urban gull populations (Bibby *et al.*, 2000; Gilbert *et al.*, 1998 and Marchant, 1983).

The territorial mapping method as used in CBC allows the distribution of bird territories across the survey area to be determined. Suitable vantage points enable surveyors to observe and account for urban roof-nesting species such as gulls. From this an estimate of the number of breeding pairs for each species can be derived.

Vantage point locations are illustrated in Drawing GC3964-RED-74-XX-M2-L-3001.

Four appropriately spaced survey visits were undertaken between 23rd March 2023 and 20th June 2023 (full details of surveys can be found in Appendix A).

In accordance with CBC methodology surveys were conducted in the early morning, avoiding the hour before sunrise, and completed before noon.

Surveys were carried out in appropriate weather conditions; avoiding days with high winds, heavy rain or poor visibility, guarding against the possibility of under recording due to bird activity being suppressed.

Surveys were completed by personnel with knowledge and experience of the likely species assemblage for the geographical location and habitat types.

During the initial visit, surveyors first walked around the buildings to look for potential nests and features suitable for nesting before surveying from Vantage Points.

All bird species and their locations were recorded on QGIS maps using standard two - letter British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) codes and bird activity was recorded using standard BTO behaviour codes.

A list of all bird species for the survey area was compiled. Peak counts for non-territorial species were recorded (i.e., the maximum number of a particular species noted during a single survey visit).

The criteria used in the assessment of breeding birds has been adapted from the standard criteria proposed by the European Ornithological Atlas Committee (EOAC 1979), as follows:

Confirmed breeding - Evidence of nesting activity was observed, such as a nest containing eggs/young, distraction display/injury feigning observed, adults carrying food or where used nests, or eggshells were located.

Probable breeding - A pair of birds in suitable nesting habitat and displaying behaviours such as singing, breeding or alarm calls and were recorded from a similar area on more than one survey visit. These species were also considered to be holding permanent territories.

Possible breeding - A pair of bird species were noted in suitable nesting habitat, or a single singing male was noted on only one survey visit.

Non-breeding - Species observed during the three surveys that were either flying over the survey area or displayed no signs of breeding or nesting, and for which the habitat is not considered suitable for nesting.

2.2 Data Analysis

Territorial analysis was carried out based on a standard technique (Marchant, 1983; Bibby *et al.*, 1992) to determine the approximate location and number of bird territories within the survey area. A single map showing all indicative breeding bird territories was produced from the analysis of the three surveys.

The results of the four breeding bird surveys were collated to produce a complete list of all bird species present in the survey area.

The conservation importance of the species recorded on site during the survey has been evaluated using two different approaches, conservation status and nature conservation value.

2.2.1 Conservation Status

The bird species recorded in and around the survey area were compared to published lists of species of conservation concern. These are birds listed in one or more of the following:

- Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) Schedule 1 (Statutorily protected species with additional protection against disturbance (S1));
- Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 7 (Species of 'Principal importance (SPI) for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in relation to Wales);
- UK Red, Amber and Green List BoCC5 (Birds of Conservation Concern); and
- Wales Red, Amber and Green List- BoCCW4 Birds of Conservation Concern in Wales.

Subsequently, each species of bird identified as breeding during the survey was allocated a level of relative protection status / conservation concern based upon their statutory/non-statutory designation (outlined in Table 1). Further details of these designations for birds are detailed in Appendix B.

Table 2: Classification levels for birds of conservation concern.

Level of conservation concern/protection status	Legislation
High	S1/SPI/UK Red list/Wales Red list
Medium	UK Amber list/Wales Amber list
Low	UK Green list/ Wales Green list

2.2.2 Nature Conservation Value

The Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) guidance on Ecological Impact Assessment (CIEEM, 2018) assesses nature conservation value within a geographical context. In order to attain a particular value level a species population or assemblage of species should meet the criteria outlined in Appendix C.

The level of nature conservation value for a species was informed by the nature conservation status of each species and county level data taken from the most recently published East Glamorgan Bird Report (East Glamorgan Bird Club, 2021). Details for county level designations for species of high and medium conservation concern is shown in Appendix D.

Breeding species recorded during the survey were compared to these criteria and assigned to the appropriate nature conservation value level.

An assessment of conservation status in combination with nature conservation value of a species/ species assemblage, together with spatial analysis of breeding territories across the site enables evaluation of the likely impact of the development.

2.3 Survey Constraints

The full extent of the retail unit of Peacocks roof space immediately east of the building was obscured from view from both vantage points by surrounding parapet walls and buildings (see Drawing GC3964-RED-74-XX-M2-L-3001 & Target Note 1). It was however possible to see birds in the vicinity flying over, and/or dropping into these areas. As such it is considered unlikely these restrictions have impacted the results recorded within this report.

No survey method for species where there is imperfect detection can assure a full species list. It is however considered that it is unlikely given the survey method used that any species that would alter the evaluation for any impact assessment have been overlooked.

Any ecological survey can only identify what was present on site at the time it was conducted, and habitat use by species can change over time. The length of time survey data remains valid will depend on a case-by-case basis, but it is generally considered that if development or proposed works do not commence within 2 years of the date of this report an update may be required.

3. Previous Reports / Desktop Study Results

3.1 Designated Sites

3.1.1 Sites of Special Scientific Interest

One statutory designated site, namely Cwm Glo a Glyndyrys, Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), was located within 1 km of Merthyr Rail Station (see Table 1). Specific mentions for birds within the site citation are highlighted in **bold**.

Due to its distance from the site and the localised nature of the works it is unlikely to be impacted by the development. As such statutory designated sites will not be further discussed in this report.

Table 3: Statutory designated sites within 1 km of the Central Grid Reference (CGR) for the site.

Site Name	Designation	Designatory features	Approximate distance and direction from the development
Cwm Glo a Glyndyrys	SSSI	Cwm Glo a Glyndyrys is of special interest for its extensive areas of marshy grassland, species-rich neutral grassland, and acid grassland, and for the association of these habitats with others including woodland and heath. It is also of special interest for its outstandingly diverse assemblage of grassland fungi, including 32 species of waxcap <i>Hygrocybe</i> spp. Bird species found at Cwm Glo a Glyndyrys include including nightjar (<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>), cuckoo (<i>Cuculus canorus</i>), tree pipit (<i>Anthus trivialis</i>), whinchat (<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>), wood warbler (<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>) and redstart (<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>).	700 m south-west

3.1.2 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation

Three Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) with relevance to birds lay within 1 km of the site. SINC are summarised in Table 2 with specific mentions for birds within the cite designation are highlighted in **bold**.

Table 4: Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation with relevance to birds within 1 km of the site.

Site Name	Designation	Designatory features	Approximate distance and direction from the development
Taff and Rhondda Rivers	SINC	<i>Only the relevant River Taff section of the citation is described.</i> The Afon Taf is the major river running through Merthyr Tydfil County Borough. The SINC encompasses some of the bankside habitats including semi-natural and ancient semi-natural woodland, neutral grassland, scrub, and marshy grassland. The River Taff supports bird species such as kingfisher (<i>Alcedo atthis</i>) and sand martin (<i>Riparia riparia</i>).	190 m west
Cwm Glo/ Cwm-Glo a Glyndyrys	SINC	The SINC contains Cwm-Glo SSSI (see Table 1). Extensive mosaic of 'ffridd' (valleyside) habitats supporting a complex of semi-upland and lowland vegetation, in large part developed on old spoil heaps and colliery tips. Nesting bird fauna includes bullfinch (<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>), reed bunting (<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>), linnet (<i>Linaria cannabina</i>), and song thrush (<i>Turdus philomelos</i>), as well as other species of interest such as redstart and wood warbler.	700 m south-west

Site Name	Designation	Designatory features	Approximate distance and direction from the development
Rhydyicar Gorllewin/ Rhydyicar West	SINC	Extensive mosaic of 'ffridd' habitats and former mine spoil supporting complex of semi-upland and lowland habitats, partly contained within conifer plantation. Nesting bird fauna includes bullfinch, reed bunting, linnet, and song thrush, as well as marsh tit. Regionally uncommon and local species include redstart, wood warbler, and pied flycatcher (<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>).	880 m south-southwest

The locations of the designated sites are illustrated on Drawing GC3964-RED-74-XX-DR-L-0002 P02 - Designated Sites Map.

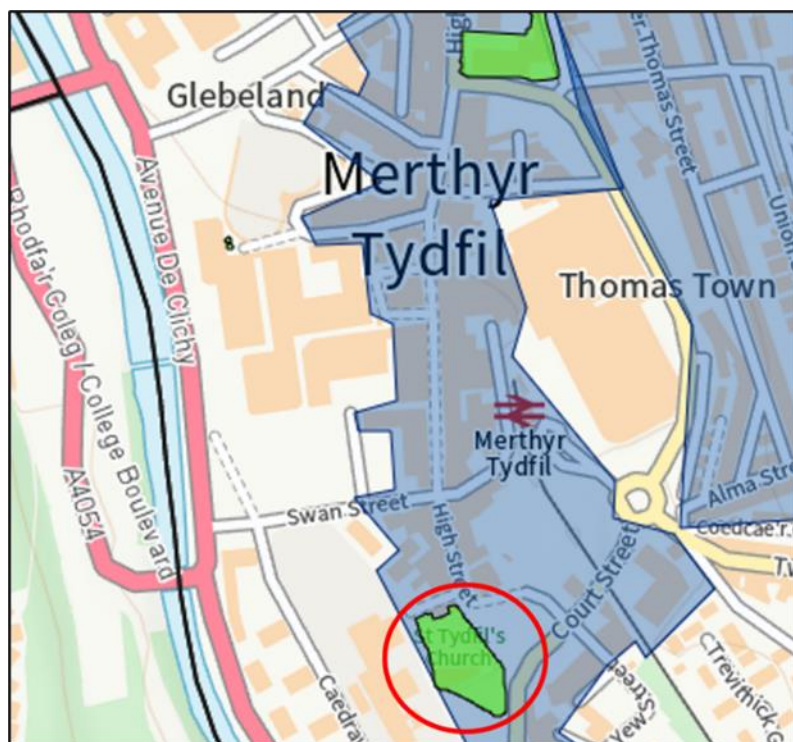
3.2 Priority Habitats and TPOs

Most of the survey area comprised hardstanding and buildings and as such no priority habitats were identified.

The previous PEA (Redstart, 2022) identified two TPOs within a 300 m radius of the site. The nearest TPO was located 100 m south of the approximate CGR for the site, comprising mature trees within the grounds of St Tydfil's Church (see Figure 2).

The development also lies within a Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council Conservation Area.

Figure 2: Tree Preservation Order (TPOs) within 300 m of the approximate CGR for the site - green polygons). The nearest TPO is highlighted with a red circle. MTCBC Conservation Area is indicated by blue polygon. Map adapted from MTCBC ArcGIS online portal [Accessed March 2023].



3.3 Priority and Protected Species

Appendix E lists bird species that have additional protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 2018 (as amended) and/or are considered priority species under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. Non-statutory designations are also listed where they are species of high or medium conservation concern.

The list shows records returned from a SEWBReC data requested for roof-nesting bird species records within 150 m radius of the approximate CGR for the site in the last 10 years. A summary of the records is detailed below:

3.3.1 *Priority/Protected/ Red Listed Species*

Two records for protected and priority roof-nesting bird species were returned via SEWBReC data searches for the last 10 years within 150 m of the site. Both records were for swift (*Apus apus*).

Swift is currently red-listed on both the Birds of Conservation Concern UK and Birds of Conservation Concern Wales lists (BoCC5 and BoCCW4).

3.3.2 *Other Species of Conservation Concern*

No records were returned for amber listed species of medium conservation concern within 150 m of the CGR for the site.

4. Results

4.1 Field Survey

A total of 30 species were recorded during the breeding bird survey; two of these species, namely feral pigeon and sand martin, were confirmed to have bred within the survey area. A further two species, house sparrow and jackdaw, were confirmed to have bred just outside the survey area.

Twenty-six species were assessed as non-breeding or flying over the survey area. A full list of bird species recorded flying over or around the area is provided in Appendix F. Species in this category include species of principal importance in Wales (SPI); herring gull, starling, and dunnoek.

House sparrow recorded breeding approximately 10 m outside the survey area for the main site is also considered of principal importance in Wales.

A full list of bird species recorded during the breeding bird survey is presented in Table 3 along with each species relative level of conservation concern, statutory and non-statutory designation and assigned conservation value level.

Table 3 also provides a peak count for all non-territorial/colonial nesting species and non-breeding species flying over the site.

Species that are not identified as being on the red or amber lists in Table 3 or are not an SPI are all green listed species of low conservation concern.

Table 3: Summary of data for all bird species recorded during the breeding bird survey

Common name	Scientific name	WACA Schedule 1	SPI Wales	UK Red List	UK Amber List	Wales Red list	Wales Amber list	Breeding	Conservation importance of breeding species	Nature conservation value of breeding species	Breeding territories	Peak count
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>				*			No. Fly over	Medium	-	-	2
Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>			*		*		No. Fly over	High	-	-	2
Rock dove/ feral pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>							Yes	Low	Site		20+
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>				*			No. Fly over	Medium	-	-	2
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>		*	*		*		No	High	-	-	6
Lesser black-backed gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>				*			No	Medium	-	-	8
Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>							No. Fly over only	Low	-	-	1
Red kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	*						No. Fly over	High	-	-	1
Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>							No. Fly over	Low	-	-	2
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>						*	No	Medium	-	-	1
Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>							Yes – just outside survey area	Low	Site	1	6
Carrion crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>							No. Fly over	Low	-	-	2
Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>							No. Fly over only	Low	-	-	1
Blue tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>							No. Fly over	Low	-	-	2
Sand martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>							Yes	Low	Site	-	14
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>							No. Fly over	Low	-	-	
House martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>			*			*	No. Fly over	High	-	-	4
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>						*	No	Medium	-	-	2
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		*	*		*		No	High	-	-	8
Mistle thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>			*			*	No	High	-	-	1
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	*			*			No. Fly over	High	-	-	1
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>							No	Low	-	-	2
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>							No	Low	-	-	1
House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		*	*			*	Yes – just outside survey area	High	Local	1	10+
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>		*		*			No	High	-	-	3
Grey wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>				*		*	No	Medium	-	-	2
Pied wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>							No	Low	-	-	2
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>						*	No. Fly over	Medium	-	-	1
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>							No. Fly over	Low	-	-	4
Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>							No. Fly over (heard only)	Low	-	-	1

4.1.1 *Territorial Analysis*

Territorial analysis determined the spatial distribution and number of breeding bird territories within the survey area. Species of high, medium and low conservation concern are shown on GC3964-RED-74-XX-M2-L-3001. Note that these are approximate locations of breeding territories and do not represent actual nest sites.

There were at least six breeding bird territories identified within the survey area.

4.1.2 *Species of High Conservation Concern*

No breeding territories for birds of high conservation concern were recorded within the site survey areas.

House sparrow, a bird of high conservation concern, was recorded breeding 10 m outside the main site survey area within the decorative stone grate of Merthyr Conservative Club building. A pair were seen taking nest material through the holes of the grate during the first survey in March (see Photograph 1). The male was subsequently seen and heard singing from the corner of the roof on surveys in April and May 2023.

Photograph 1: Merthyr Conservative Club building just south of south-eastern extent of main site survey area.



4.1.3 *Species of Medium Conservation Concern*

No breeding territories of birds of medium conservation concern were recorded within the site survey area.

4.1.4 *Species of Low Conservation Concern*

Two confirmed breeding territories for feral pigeon and at least four breeding territories for sand martin were identified within the site survey area.

Feral pigeons were seen with nest material entering a cavity under the roof eave at the eastern extent of the Monique boutique building adjoining the main site Peacocks building (see Photograph 2).

Photograph 2: Feral pigeon nest location under eave of roof at eastern extent of Monique boutique building.



Another feral pigeon nest was noted during the March and April surveys on the covered ledge of a building on the corner of High Street near the junction of Swan Street. Nest material was seen projecting out over the ledge near the roof of the building and a pigeon was perched next to it.

During the April 2023 survey a feral pigeon was also observed through windows within the empty building space above the Peacocks building in the main site (see Photograph 3).

Photograph 3: Feral pigeon in empty building space above Peacocks building on main site. Location highlighted with red circles.



In addition to feral pigeon, sand martins were confirmed breeding within the Merthyr Rail Station retaining wall. At least four breeding territories were noted with adults frequently visiting gaps and drainage holes within the wall. A large chick being regularly visited by at least one adult was also observed within a nest at the back of a drainage hole cavity (see Photograph 4).

Photograph 4: Retaining wall on site where sand martins were confirmed breeding.



Sand martins were observed regularly visiting the gable end of a hotel being renovated on High Street within the survey area, immediately north of the main site (see TN2). Sand martins are colonial nesters, and a number of pairs were seen fluttering up and clinging onto brickwork. At least four different individuals were seen entering cavities within the wall (see Photograph 5).

Photograph 5: Gable end of hotel where sand martins were observed entering gaps within the masonry.



Jackdaw, another bird species of low conservation concern was confirmed breeding within a cavity in The Welsh Bar building at the corner of High Street, south-west of the main site survey boundary (see Photograph 6). A pair were seen taking nest materials into the cavity during the March survey and on subsequent visits in April and May displaying courtship behaviour including tail quivering at the site of the nest.

Photograph 6: Jackdaw nest location within cavity of The Welsh Bar building, south-west of the survey area.



5. Discussion and Evaluation of Impacts

5.1 Non-Statutory Sites

The closest non-statutory designated site to the proposed development (River Taff SINC) lay approximately 190 m to the west. The SINC is separated from the proposed development by high density building development. As such it is considered far enough from the development for there to be negligible impact on the riverine habitat for birds from pollution events providing appropriate control measures are in place regarding waste management, fuel storage and spill protection.

Due to their distance from the site and the localised nature of the works it was considered unlikely that other non-statutory designated sites would be impacted by the development.

5.2 TPOs and Conservation Areas

Two TPOs lay within 300 m of the site. The nearest TPO area was located approximately 100 m south of the central grid reference (CGR) for the site. The protected trees lay within the grounds of St Tydfil's church and as such it was considered unlikely that they would be impacted by the proposed demolition works.

The development sits within a Conservation Area for MTCBC, protection for trees located in Conservation Areas is outlined as follows. 'The importance of trees in Conservation Areas is recognised in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 which makes special provision for trees in Conservation Areas which are not already protected by a Tree Preservation Order. Anyone wishing to cut back a tree in a conservation area must first notify the Council's Town Planning Division and allow up to 6 weeks for the Council to consider the value of that tree in respect of tree health and its contribution to visual amenity. Works can only take place once a 'No Objection' letter has been received from Council or the 6-week period has expired with no response from the Council' – www.merthyr.gov.uk (September 2021) (Redstart, 2022).

5.3 Birds

The desk study returned two records for roof nesting bird species within 150 m of the CGR for the site. Both were for swift with one record relating to a nest site and the other to 'probable breeding.' The closest record was approximately 90 m west-southwest of the site although an exact location was not provided.

Swift was noted flying high over the main site during the May survey. No behaviour indicative of breeding swifts was however noted at the site or around structures nearby e.g., slowly flying past potential nest holes or screaming parties flying low over buildings.

Feral pigeon was frequently recorded within and around the main site survey area, utilising external ledges and cavities within buildings to nest. Two breeding territories were confirmed within the survey area.

Bird deterrent features were noted on structures in the vicinity and droppings were observed below buildings indicative of regular roost or nesting sites for feral pigeons.

No breeding birds were recorded in or in the immediate vicinity of the station building survey area. Wire mesh was noted in one section under the eaves of the station building possibly installed as a preventative measure to stop birds such as feral pigeon entering the area to nest.

Impact on breeding birds within the main site and station building areas is likely to be confined to individual nest sites that may be destroyed during works. Feral pigeon can nest all year around therefore it is possible that an

active nest could be encountered outside the generally accepted bird breeding season (March to August) inclusive.

Nests, eggs and young of feral pigeon may be destroyed under a general licence (obtainable from Natural Resources Wales website) to preserve public health and prevent the spread of disease.

There is however potential to disturb breeding sand martins within the retaining wall earmarked for demolition and rebuilding as part of the proposed redevelopment works for the site. As sand martins are colonial nesters that often return to the same sites annually there is potential to disturb several breeding pairs through the works.

Sand martins were also recorded at the gable end of a hotel being renovated on High Street, immediately adjacent to buildings proposed for demolition (TN2). Although only witnessed during the June survey the behaviour of these colonial nesting birds, together with the fact that they were confirmed breeding in a nearby retaining wall, was considered indicative of probable breeding within the gable end. It was considered highly likely that these individuals would be displaced during subsequent years if re-rendering of the gable end forms part of the renovation plans for the hotel (private work not associated with the site).

The combined impact of hotel renovation works together with the proposed demolition and rebuilding of the existing Merthyr Train Station retaining wall has the potential to displace all individuals using these spaces. As such there is the potential to undermine the viability of this sand martin colony in future years.

Although a bird of low conservation concern overall, within East Glamorgan as a whole sand martins breed 'in small numbers' with only six 'confirmed' breeding colonies and five 'probable' breeding colonies recorded for the last report in 2021 (GBC, 2022).

The bird assemblage recorded in and around the survey area is considered typical of the habitats present within the site and its geographical and landscape context.

The breeding bird assemblage recorded in the area comprised species that are generally common and widespread throughout East Glamorgan, this includes species of high and medium conservation concern.

The site overall is considered to be of **site** nature conservation value (See Appendix C) for birds owing to:

- The occurrence of 30 bird species recorded across the site and surrounding area.
- The absence of breeding species of high and medium conservation concern in the site survey area and the presence of only one breeding species of high and medium conservation concern namely, house sparrow, a section 7 priority species for Wales, recorded in the immediate surrounding area.

5.4 Impact Assessment

The assessment of likely impact on breeding bird species arising from the development is based on:

- An understanding of individual species ecological requirements.
- Number and location of breeding territories across the site.
- Extent of suitable breeding habitat outside the footprint of the development, in the wider landscape.
- Conservation status based upon legislation (S1/SPI) and current non-statutory designations (red/amber/green listed BoCC5 and BoCCW4).
- Likely location and extent of works and associated siting of plant and access routes pre- and during construction.
- Overall design of the development, including lighting and landscaping.

5.4.1 Potential Impacts

Potential impacts on breeding bird species as a result of the works include, but are not confined to:

- Direct mortality, habitat loss (foraging, shelter and nesting), degradation and alteration of habitats and increased disturbance (lighting, noise), air and/or water pollution.
- The effect of these potential impacts includes, but are not limited to; reduced species abundance, reduced species richness, reduced reproductive success, loss of breeding sites, changes to and /or loss of breeding territories.

Habitat Loss

Main site - habitat with potential suitability for breeding birds known to nest within and on buildings and roof-spaces will be lost as a result of the demolition of buildings.

The adverse impact of habitat loss at the main site is however likely to be **low** in the short term and **negligible to low** in the long term as buildings with other suitable features for roof nesting bird species were prevalent in the surrounding area outside the proposed demolition zone.

Station building – the adverse impact of demolishing the existing train station building is likely to be **negligible to low** in the short-term and **negligible** in the long-term.

Merthyr Rail Station retaining wall - habitat with suitability for breeding birds e.g., sand martins, will be lost as a result of the demolition and rebuilding of the retaining wall.

In the absence of mitigation measures, the adverse impact of this habitat loss is likely to be **high adverse** in the short-term and **moderate to high adverse** in the long-term due to a lack of similar suitable features for sand martins in the surrounding area.

Disturbance from Construction Work

Construction work will be likely to require additional lighting. Noise levels will increase and there is the possibility of air pollution. Disturbance is likely to lead to avoidance by roof nesting (and building cavity nesting) breeding bird species other than feral pigeon in structures nearby. Breeding success may be impaired and a reduction in feeding opportunities could cause a decline in species abundance.

Other structures with suitable features for roof nesting bird species such as feral pigeon existed outside the immediate footprint of the development although there was a lack of suitable habitat for breeding sand martins in the wider area. As such adverse impact is likely to be **moderate adverse** in the short-term and **low adverse** in the long-term without appropriate mitigation measures.

River Pollution and Disturbance

High density building development separates the main site from the River Taff SINC located approximately 190 m west. Due to the localised nature of the works and its distance from the site it is considered that any impact on birds utilising this riverine habitat from pollution events is likely to be negligible providing appropriate control measures are in place regarding waste management, fuel storage and spill protection.

The potential impacts of the development and their likely magnitude as discussed; are based upon no mitigation measures being applied.

6. Conclusion

6.1 Summary of Survey

The site was found to support a low diversity of breeding bird species. Feral pigeons and sand martins, both birds of low conservation concern were confirmed breeding on site. Sand martins are however only known to breed in low numbers in East Glamorgan.

Jackdaw and house sparrow were recorded nesting in structures just outside the survey area for the main site. No breeding birds were recorded within the station building survey area. The assemblage of species recorded is considered typical of habitats present within the site and its context within the wider landscape.

No breeding bird species classified as species of conservation concern i.e., listed as SPI and/or red and amber listed birds of conservation concern were recorded breeding within the survey area. Only house sparrow classified as a species of conservation concern (SPI Wales, UK Red-listed & Wales Amber-listed), a common and widespread species in East Glamorgan, was recorded breeding in the area immediately surrounding the main site.

The assemblage of birds recorded across the site is assessed as of no more than **site** importance in terms of nature conservation value.

6.2 Summary of Impact

The works within the footprint of the scheme have potential to directly impact breeding, sheltering and foraging habitat for a limited range of bird species that nest within or on buildings or structures.

Structures within the surrounding survey area and wider landscape provide suitable breeding habitat for feral pigeon recorded breeding within the survey area, as well as jackdaw and house sparrow recorded breeding just outside the main site survey area.

At least four pairs of sand martins were confirmed breeding within Merthyr Rail Station retaining wall and at least another four pairs were recorded as 'probable' breeders adjacent to the main site at the gable end of a hotel being renovated.

Proposed demolition activities associated with the main site and the retaining wall have the potential to impact upon this sand martin colony through dust and disturbance. The combined impacts of the hotel renovation (private work not associated with the site) and the proposed demolition and rebuilding of Merthyr Rail Station retaining wall also have the potential to adversely affect the colony in the long-term via displacement through loss of nesting sites.

Development activities associated with the main site and station building were considered to have an overall low short-term and negligible to low long-term impact. While the proposed demolition of the retaining wall was considered to have high impact in the short-term and moderate to high impact in the long-term.

The short-term and long-term impacts and likely magnitude of impact discussed are based upon no mitigation measures being adopted (see Table 4).

Table 4: Short-term and long-term potential unmitigated impacts of the development

Unmitigated impact	Short term	Long term
Bird habitat loss (main site and station building)	Low adverse	Negligible to Low
Bird habitat loss (retaining wall)	High adverse	Moderate to High
Disturbance during construction phase activities – demolition activities	Moderate adverse	Low adverse
River pollution and disturbance	High adverse	Low adverse

If the recommendations for mitigation, compensation and enhancement detailed in section 7 are followed the magnitude of the adverse impacts on breeding birds, both short and long term, will be reduced and the proposed works will also be compliant with relevant wildlife legislation.

7. Recommendations

7.1 Mitigation

7.1.1 *Timing of Works*

Works will be carried out in such a way as to ensure that no birds, eggs or active nests are damaged or destroyed.

Demolition and/or construction activities will be undertaken between September and February inclusive in order to avoid the main bird breeding season i.e., March to August inclusive. This is the most effective way of avoiding impacts and meeting legal requirements.

If work needs to be carried out within the breeding bird season (i.e., March to August inclusive) a check for active bird nests will be carried out by a suitably experienced ecologist prior to any work commencing.

If an active bird nest is discovered all work (within a radius to be agreed with an ecologist) will cease and the nest will be protected, until all young have fledged, or the nest is no longer active.

Feral pigeon nests with eggs and/or young can be legally removed if a general licence is obtained and guidelines for humane disposal followed. If an active feral pigeon nest is suspected advice will first be obtained from an ecologist to confirm identification as native pigeon species are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (As amended).

7.1.2 *Pollution Control*

Standard best practice and pollution control measures will be implemented in accordance with relevant guidance (e.g., CIRIA, 2001 and Environment Agency (2018). Guidelines for Pollution Prevention (GPP), particularly GPP 5 Works and maintenance in or near water, outlined in NetRegs (NetRegs, 2018) to ensure that watercourses such as the River Taff SINC (190 m west of site) and its associated riverine habitat are not directly or indirectly adversely affected by silt, dust, uncontrolled surface water run-off, inappropriate storage of materials and/or inappropriate refuelling of machinery. These measures will be detailed in a Risk Management Plan.

- All materials (especially if hazardous or toxic) will be stored securely at least 7 m away from the watercourse.
- All static machinery will be placed on drip-trays or oil absorbent nappies. Trays will be emptied regularly to ensure that they contain any spills.
- Refuelling of machinery will not be carried out on site.
- Location of site compounds will be discussed with an ecologist prior to commencement of the works.

7.1.3 *Toolbox Talk*

All site operatives will receive a toolbox talk delivered by a suitably experienced ecologist prior to the commencement of work on site. The talk will cover the possible location of bird nests and actions to be taken should a nest be unexpectedly discovered.

7.1.4 *Installation of Nesting Cavities for Sand Martins – Retaining Wall*

Demolition and rebuilding of the station retaining wall has the potential to permanently disperse a sand martin colony currently nesting within the existing wall. Provision of alternative nesting cavities will therefore be incorporated into the design for the new retaining wall.

At least 12 false drainage holes of clay or concrete pipes of 50 cm (up to a maximum of 1 m) in length will be set into the wall and sealed against water ingress to provide alternative suitable nesting habitat for sand martins. Pipes will be at least 6 cm internal diameter and placed at least 30 cm apart on the wall.

Ideally, sand shall be placed in the pipes and the entrance hole half blocked with cement for birds to be able to tunnel further into the sandy material at the far end of the pipe (RSPB, [Accessed, July 2023]).

Alternatively:

Sand martin nest tubes can be used and installed (at least 12). Recommended make and model: Sand Martin Nest Box, NHBS reference #217283 available at: <https://www.nhbs.com/sand-martin-nest-box>

7.2 Enhancement

Planning Policy Wales 11 (Welsh Government, 2021) advocates the enhancement of biodiversity in relation to sites. The following measures are recommended to comply with this policy:

7.2.1 *Habitat Creation*

When re-development of the site is carried out there is an opportunity to enhance the habitat for a range of bird species. Planting of locally sourced tree/shrub species within public spaces should be considered. Species could include hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), bird cherry (*Prunus padus*), and/ or holly (*Ilex aquifolium*). Grouping together trees would be more beneficial providing food (berries) and dense cover for sheltering and nesting birds. Planting of locally sourced tree/shrub species would also make the area more aesthetically pleasing for visitors, residents, and workers in the area.

7.2.2 *Installation of House Sparrow Terrace Nest Box*

Potential habitat such as buildings with holes and cavities suitable for roof nesting species will be permanently lost through demolition. House sparrows, a social to colonial (Ferguson-Lees, J. et al., 2011) UK red-listed species were found nesting just outside the main site survey area. Provision of one house sparrow terrace nest box will be placed in a suitable location under the guidance of a suitably qualified ecologist e.g., on, or incorporated into a suitable wall on a nearby building.

Schwegler or similar boxes are recommended for durability. Recommended make and model: 1SP Schwegler Sparrow Terrace, NHBS reference #185100 or #185099, available at: <https://www.nhbs.com/1sp-schwegler-sparrow-terrace>

7.2.3 *Installation of Starling Nest Boxes*

Starlings, a Red-listed species in the UK and Wales, known to nest in loose colonies often within building cavities were recorded flying in the surrounding area. Provision of three starling nest boxes will be placed in suitable locations under guidance of a suitably qualified ecologist e.g., on a suitable building nearby. Recommended make and model: Starling Nest Box, NHBS reference #179138; available at : <https://www.nhbs.com/woodpeckerstarling-nest-box>

7.2.4 *Bird Boxes for Swift*

Swift, a rapidly declining, Red-listed species in the UK and Wales, was recorded flying over the site and was previously recorded breeding west of the main site. Install two nest boxes specifically designed for nesting swifts to be mounted on suitable buildings at an appropriate height under the guidance of an ecologist. Recommended make and model: WoodStone Swift Nest Box, NHBS reference #217160; available at : <https://www.nhbs.com/woodstone-swift-nest-box>

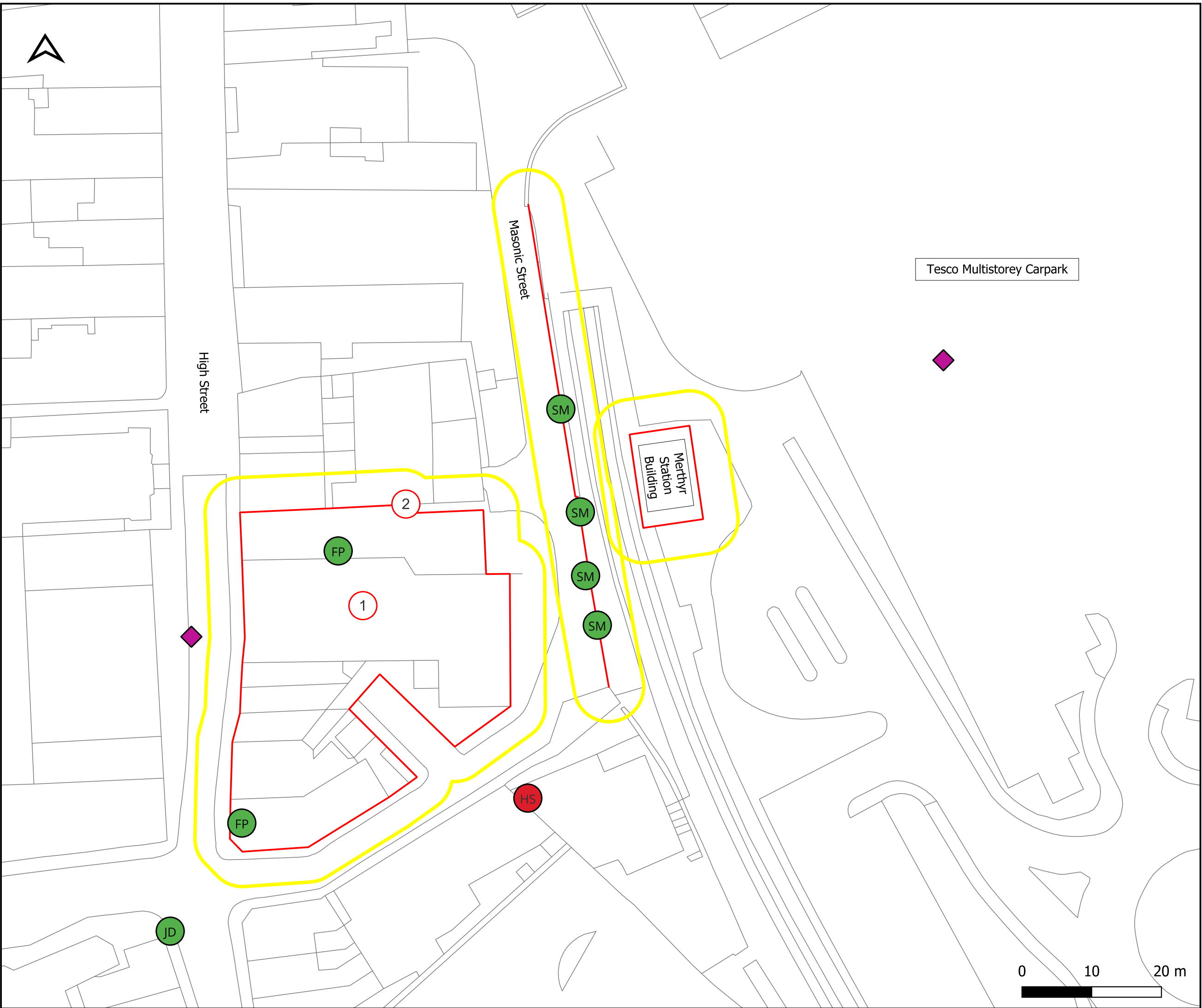
Note: The recommendations made in this report should be considered alongside recommendations for faunal species and habitats in other reports in respect to these works.

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- Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) (as amended).

Drawings

- GC3964-RED-74-XX-M2-L-3001 - Breeding Bird Survey Results
- GC3964-RED-74-XX-DR-L-0002 P02 - Designated Sites Map



Key:

- Target Notes
- ◆ Vantage Points

Low Conservation Concern:

- FP - Feral Pigeon
- JD - Jackdaw
- SM - Sand Martin

High Conservation Concern:

- HS - House Sparrow

— Redline Boundary

— 5m Survey Boundary

— Ordnance Survey Licence 100023458

P01 NP TO GP First Issue. 25/07/2023

Purpose of issue
S2 - Issued for Information

Classification
Confidential

Client
Merthyr County Borough Council

Project
Merthyr Rail Station

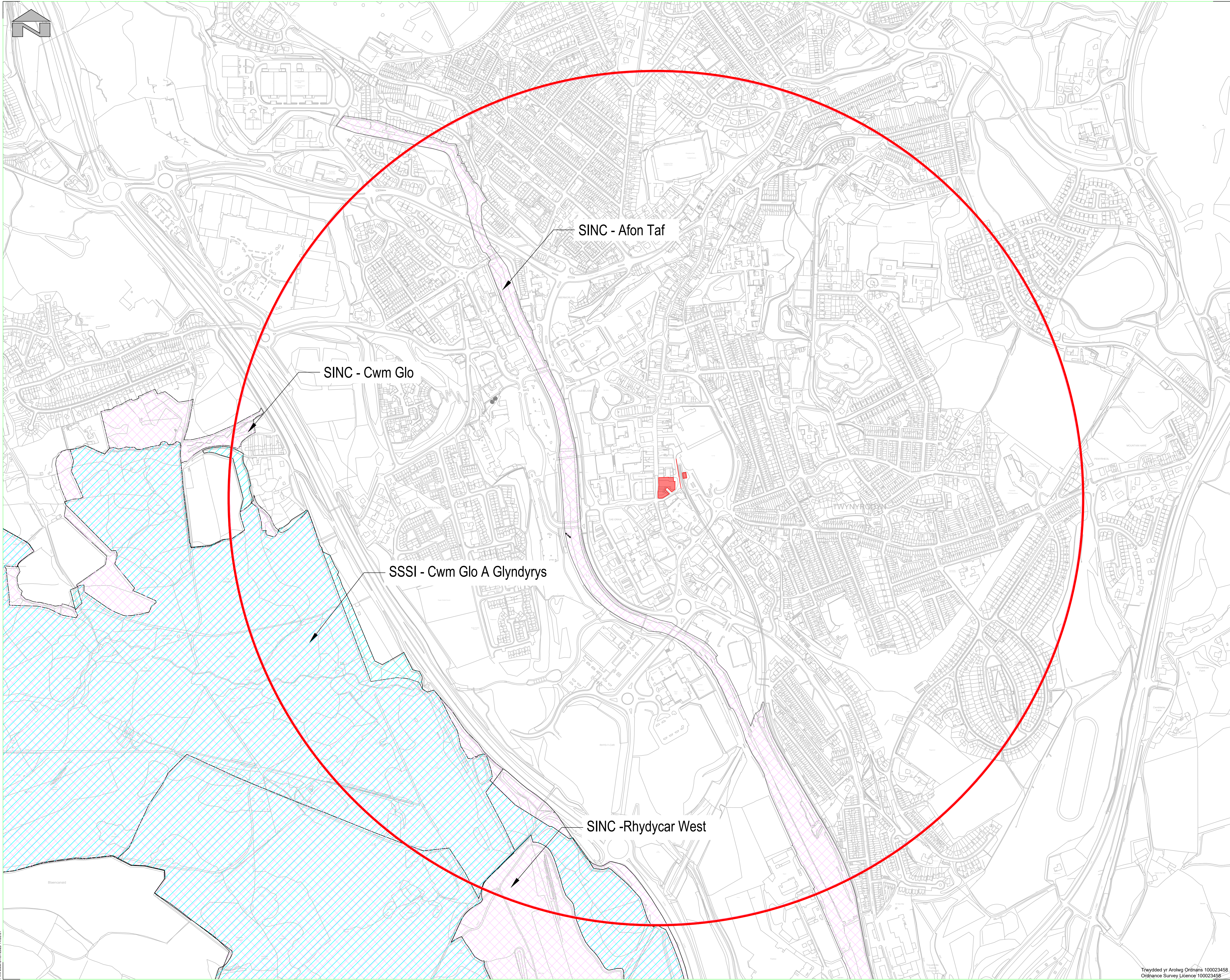
Drawing Title
Breeding Bird Roof Top Survey Results

Drawn	NP	Checked	TO	Approved	GP
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Project No	Date	Scale	Size
GC/003964	July 2023	1:500	A3

Drawing identifier	Revision: P01
GC3964-RED-74-XX-M2-L-3001	


REDSTART.
Quest House, St Mellons Business Park, Fortran Rd, St. Mellons, Cardiff, CF3 0EY
www.redstartwales.com



Key:

Redline Boundary

SSSI Sites

SINC Sites

P02	NP	TO	GP	Redline Boundary Added	07/07/2023
P01	NP	TF	GP	First Issue:	15/02/2022
Rev	Drawn	Chk'd	App'd	Description	Date

Purpose of Issue

S2 - Suitable for Information

Classification

Confidential

Client

**Merthyr Tydfil
County Borough Council**

Project

Merthyr Tydfil Rail Station

Drawing

Designated Sites

Scale @ A1	Drawn	Checked	Approved
1:4,000	NP	TF	GP

Project No.	Date
GC/003964	NOV 2021

Drawing Identifier	BS1182 Compliant
Project - Originator - Zone - Level - File Type - Role - Number	Revision
GC3964-RED-74-XX-DR-C-0002	P02

REDSTART.

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Print Date: 07/07/2023 14:33:01

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Twydded yr Arolwg Ordnans 100023458
Ordnance Survey Licence 100023458

Appendix A - Survey Data

Survey	Date	Start Time	Finish Time	Survey Conditions
1	23/03/2023	08:00	10:45	Temp: 8-9°C Cloud:4/8 Wind: 4 Precipitation: Moderate shower passed over quickly Visibility: Good
2	17/04/2023	08:00	10:30	Temp:11-14 °C Cloud:8/8 Wind: 2 Precipitation: None Visibility: Good
3	15/05/2023	08:00	10:30	Temp: 8 - 12 °C Cloud: 0/8 Wind: 2 Precipitation: None Visibility: Good
4	20/06/2023	08:30	11:00	Temp: 15 - 20°C Cloud: 8/8 Wind: 0 Precipitation: None Visibility: Good

Key: Cloud: scale 0 - 8, 0 = clear skies, 4 = 50% cover, 8 = complete cloud cover

Wind: Beaufort scale 0 – 12 , 0 = calm, 2 = light breeze, 4 = moderate breeze, 6 = strong breeze, 7 = Moderate gale, 9 =Strong gale 12=Hurricane

Appendix B - Legislation and Conservation Designations

Birds Directive (Directive 2009/147/EC)

Annex 1 of the Birds Directive lists species and sub-species which are:

- in danger of extinction;
- vulnerable to specific changes in their habitat;
- considered rare because of small populations or restricted local distribution;
- requiring particular attention for reasons of the specific nature of habitat.

For these species Member States must conserve their most suitable territories in number and size as Special Protection Areas (SPAs). Species listed on Annex 1 of the Birds Directive include kingfisher and red kite.

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

Schedule 1

All naturally occurring British bird species are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). The legislation protects all birds, their nests and eggs and it is an offence to:

- intentionally kill, injure and take any wild bird;
- intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built; or
- intentionally take or destroy the egg of any wild bird.

Birds listed on Schedule 1 of the above legislation (e.g. kingfisher and red kite) are afforded further protection and it is an offence to:

- intentionally or recklessly disturb the bird while nest building or while at (or near) a nest with eggs or young; or disturb dependent young of such a bird.

Environment (Wales) Act 2016

Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act lists the living organisms and types of habitat in Wales which are considered to be of key significance to sustain and improve biodiversity in relation to Wales.

The Act states that Welsh Ministers must take all reasonable steps to maintain and enhance the living organisms and types of habitat included in any list published under this section and encourage others to take such steps.

Red and Amber Lists

Red-listed bird species are those which:

- Are globally threatened;
- Have suffered a historical population decline in the UK during 1800–1995;
- Have suffered a severe (at least 50%) decline in the UK breeding population over the last 25 years, or longer-term period (the entire period used for assessments since the first review, starting in 1969);
- Have suffered a severe (at least 50%) contraction of the UK breeding range over the last 25 years, or the longer-term period;

Amber-listed bird species are those which:

- Have unfavourable conservation status in Europe (SPEC = Species of European Conservation Concern)
- Have suffered a historical population decline during 1800–1995, but recovering; population size has more than doubled over last 25 years
- Have suffered a moderate (25-49%) decline in the UK breeding population over the last 25 years, or the longer-term period
- Have suffered a moderate (25-49%) contraction of the UK breeding range over last 25 years, or the longer-term period
- Have suffered a moderate (25-49%) decline in the UK non-breeding population over last 25 years, or the longer-term period
- Are rare breeders; 1–300 breeding pairs in UK
- Are rare non-breeders; less than 900 individuals
- Are localised; at least 50% of the UK breeding or non-breeding population in 10 or fewer sites, but not applied to rare breeders or non-breeders
- Are internationally important; at least 20% of European breeding or non-breeding population in UK (NW European and East Atlantic Flyway populations used for non-breeding wildfowl and waders respectively).

Appendix C - Nature Conservation Value-Definition of Terms

The examples selected for each Nature Conservation Value level are for general guidance and other considerations may apply, for example species of low value in isolation but subject to widespread national decline may be afforded higher Nature Conservation Values in some cases. The Nature Conservation Value levels are adapted from CIEEM (2016) and have been outlined to be specific to birds.

Nature Conservation Value	Selection criteria (examples)
International	Species cited as part of a SPA and which regularly occurs in internationally or nationally important numbers (i.e. >1% of international population).
National	Species cited as part of a SSSI and which regularly occurs in nationally or regionally important numbers. A nationally important assemblage of breeding or overwintering species. A species present in nationally important numbers (i.e. >1% of UK population). Rare breeding species (<300 breeding pairs in UK).
Regional	Section 7 priority species not covered above and regularly occurring in regionally important numbers. (>1% of regional population). Species on BoCCW4 and /or BoCCUK5 Red list and regularly occurring in regionally important numbers.
County/Metropolitan	Section 7 priority species not covered above and regularly occurring in county important numbers (>1% of county population). Species on the BoCCW4 and /or BoCCUK5 and regularly occurring in county important numbers.
District	Section 7 species not covered above and are rare in the locality. Species present in just short of county important numbers. Sustainable populations of rare or scarce species in the locality.
Local	Other section 7 species not covered above and species on the Red and Amber BoCCW4 /BoCCUK5 lists regularly occurring in locally sustainable populations.
Site	All other BoCCW4 and /or BoCCUK5 Green listed common and widespread species. Low numbers of Amber or Red listed species.

Appendix D - Breeding Bird Species of High and Medium Conservation Concern-County Status

Common name	Scientific name	Status in East Glamorgan
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Common resident breeder whose population is augmented by local hand-reared releases.
Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	Common breeding summer visitor and passage migrant.
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	Common resident breeder, large flocks frequently noted on passage at coastal sites in late autumn.
Herring gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	Common resident breeder, passage migrant, and winter visitor. Breeds on Flat Holm, roof tops of coastal towns and on suitable cliffs.
Lesser black-backed gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Common resident breeder, passage migrant and winter visitor, breeds on Flat Holm and on roof tops, mainly in Cardiff City Centre but occasionally well inland.
Red kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	Locally common resident in the north of the recording area and rare breeder.
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	Common resident breeder.
House martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	Common breeding summer visitor and passage migrant, a small cliff-nesting colony exists between Southerndown and Llantwit Major.
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	Common breeding summer visitor and passage migrant, locally common winter visitor.
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Common but declining breeding resident and winter visitor.
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	Common resident breeder.
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	Common winter visitor and passage migrant.
House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Common resident breeder.
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	Common resident breeder.
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Common resident breeder and passage migrant.
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	Common resident breeder, winter visitor and passage migrant.

Appendix E- Desktop Study Data

SEWBRc Data Records

Roof nesting bird species within 150 m of the CGR for the Scheme

Common Name	Scientific Name	Legislation / Conservation Status	No. of Records	Most Recent Record
Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	UKBA, WBA	2	June 2019

Legislation Abbreviations	
UKBA	RSPB UK Birds Amber List (not based on IUCN criteria)
UKBR	RSPB UK Birds Red List (not based on IUCN criteria)

Appendix F- Target Notes

TN	Approximate grid reference	Description	Photograph
1	SO 04960 05980	Roof space immediately east of Peacocks building - obscured from full view during surveys.	
2	SO 04965 05994	Gable end of hotel being renovated where at least four 'probable' breeding pairs of sand martins were located.	

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