

Caroline Pulley
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
Unit 5 Triangle Business Park
Pentrebach
Merthyr Tydfil
CF48 4TQ

24 December 2019

Annwyl Ms Pulley/Dear Ms Pulley

BWRIAD/PROPOSAL: TEMPORARY CHANGE OF USE OF THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE BUILDING ADJACENT TO AND TO THE EAST OF THE BUS STATION TO PROVIDE A HOMELESS SHELTER BETWEEN JANUARY 2020 AND MARCH 2020.

LLEOLIAD/LOCATION: BUS STATION, CASTLE STREET, MERTHYR TYDFIL.

Thank you for consulting Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru/Natural Resources Wales about the above, which was received on 4 December 2019.

Requirement: Flood Risk - The Planning Authority to be satisfied that there are overriding reasons for considering for granting the application contrary to national planning policy on development and flood risk. Satisfactory evidence must then be provided to demonstrate that the risks and consequences of flooding can be managed to be acceptable level, in accordance with TAN15.

Flood Risk

The planning application proposes highly vulnerable development, temporary homeless shelter - residential. Our Flood Risk Map, which is updated on a quarterly basis, confirms the site to be within Zone C2 of the Development Advice Map (DAM) contained in TAN15.

We refer you to Section 6 of TAN15 and the Chief Planning Officer [letter](#) from Welsh Government, dated 9 January 2014, which affirms that highly vulnerable development and emergency services should not be permitted in Zone C2 (paragraph 6.2 of TAN15). The justification tests in paragraph 6.2 of TAN15 do not apply to highly vulnerable development or emergency services in Zone C2.

In the first instance, your Authority should make a planning policy decision on the application. Therefore, unless we receive written confirmation from your Authority that you

believe there are overriding reasons to consider granting planning permission, despite the site's location within Zone C2, we do not intend to comment on the risks and consequences of flooding and we would advise that your Authority should refuse the planning application on planning policy grounds.

The decision as to whether a development should be considered contrary to TAN15 policy is entirely a matter for your Authority. However, if you provide overriding reasons and require our advice, we advise you there is no flood consequences assessment (FCA) supporting the planning application and this will be required to assess compliance with test iv (in paragraph 6.2). We will then provide you with technical advice on the acceptability of flooding consequences in accordance with Appendix 1 of TAN15.

If the FCA fails to demonstrate that the consequences of flooding can be acceptably managed over the lifetime of the development, then we would **object** to the application.

Please inform us, in accordance with advice in paragraph 11.7 of TAN15, if you are minded to grant permission for the above application contrary to our advice and allow sufficient time for further representations to be made before any consent is granted.

Finally, as your Authority will be aware, under the Town & Country Planning (Notification) (Wales) Direction 2012 and more specifically Category I relating to Flood Risk Area Development, where the Planning Authority is minded to grant permission, there is a requirement to refer applications for emergency services or highly vulnerable development within Zone C2 to Welsh Government.

Other Matters

Our comments above only relate specifically to matters included on our checklist, *Development Planning Advisory Service: Consultation Topics* (September 2018), which is published on our [website](#). We have not considered potential effects on other matters and do not rule out the potential for the proposed development to affect other interests, including environmental interests of local importance.

We advise the applicant that, in addition to planning permission, it is their responsibility to ensure they secure all other permits/consents/licences relevant to their development. Please refer to our [website](#) for further details.

If you have any queries on the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yn gywir/Yours sincerely

Andrew Hurst
Cynghorydd - Cynllunio Datblygu/Advisor - Development Planning
Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru /Natural Resources Wales