



The Coal
Authority



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For the Attention of: Ms R Owens
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

[By Email: planning@merthyr.gov.uk]

16 August 2022

Dear Ms Owens

PLANNING APPLICATION: P/22/0201

Siting of 3 shipping containers for the Big Bocs Bwyd project; Troedyrhiw Junior School, Archer Street, Troedyrhiw

Thank you for your consultation letter of 08 August 2022 seeking the views of The Coal Authority on the above planning application.

The Coal Authority is a non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy. As a statutory consultee, The Coal Authority has a duty to respond to planning applications and development plans in order to protect the public and the environment in mining areas.

The Coal Authority Response: Material Consideration

I have reviewed the site location plans and the proposals and supporting information available to view on the LPA website and can confirm that part of the site falls within the defined Development High Risk Area.

The Coal Authority records indicate that the application site is likely to have been subject to historic unrecorded coal mine workings at shallow depth associated with a thick coal outcrop. Voids and broken ground associated with such workings can pose a risk of ground instability and may give rise to the emission of mine gases. The site also lies within a Surface Coal Resource Zone.

However, the part of the site where the development is proposed lies outside of the defined High Risk Area. In addition, when considering the nature of this particular development proposal, it does not appear that the structures will require substantial foundations or earthworks. Therefore, we do not consider that a Coal Mining Risk

Assessment is necessary to support this proposal and we **do not object** to this planning application.

Although the development proposed is outside of the defined Development High Risk Area, as the site lies within an area where coal mining activity has taken place, it is requested that the following wording is included as an Informative Note on any planning permission granted:

The proposed development lies within a coal mining area which may contain unrecorded coal mining related hazards. If any coal mining feature is encountered during development, this should be reported immediately to the Coal Authority on 0345 762 6848.

Further information is also available on the Coal Authority website at:
www.gov.uk/coalauthority

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely

Ashley Langrick

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Disclaimer

The above consultation response is provided by the Coal Authority as a Statutory Consultee and is based upon the latest available coal mining data on the date of the response, and electronic consultation records held by the Coal Authority since 1 April 2013. The comments made are also based upon only the information provided to the Coal Authority by the Local Planning Authority and/or has been published on the Council's website for consultation purposes in relation to this specific planning application. The views and conclusions contained in this response may be subject to review and amendment by the Coal Authority if additional or new data/information (such as a revised Coal Mining Risk Assessment) is provided by the Local Planning Authority or the applicant for consultation purposes.