

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

Eich cyfeirnod
Your reference

P/25/0087

By email

Ein cyfeirnod
Our reference

LC

Dyddiad
Date

17 April 2025

Llinell uniongyrchol
Direct line

03000 252791

Ebost
Email:cadwplanning@gov.wales

Dear Sir/Madam

Planning Application – The repairs, replacement and installation of new drainage pipes, attenuation tank and manholes to reduce the risk of flooding from surface water from the castle and surrounding area, Cyfarthfa Castle Cyfarthfa Park

Thank you for your letter of 1 April inviting our comments on the information submitted for the above planning application.

Advice

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

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

Assessment

Scheduled Monuments

BR145 Nant Crew Inscribed Stone (now in Cefn Coed Church)
GM331 Ynys Fach Iron Furnaces
GM424 Pont y Cafnau Tramroad Bridge
GM425 Remains of Blast Furnaces, Cyfarthfa Ironworks
GM467 Cyfarthfa Canal Level
GM478 Gurnos Quarry Tramroad & Leat
GM479 Tai Mawr Leat for Cyfarthfa Iron Works
GM486 Iron Canal Bridge from Rhydycar
GM495 Cyfarthfa Tramroad Section at Heolgerrig
GM594 Merthyr Tramroad: Morlais Castle section
GM609 Black Pins early ironstone workings
GM610 Cwm Glo Chapel



GM611 Cwm Glo pit and ironstone tip

Registered Parks and Gardens

PGW(Gm)1(MER) Cyfarthfa Castle

PGW(Gm)70(MER) Cefn Coed Cemetery & Jewish Burial Ground

This planning application is for repairs, new drainage pipes, attenuation tank and manholes, at Cyfarthfa Castle, Cyfarthfa Park, Merthyr Tydfil.

The above designated historic assets are located inside 2km of the proposed development, but intervening topography, buildings and vegetation block all views between them except for PGW(Gm)1(MER) Cyfarthfa Castle in which the proposed development is located. Consequently, the proposed development will have no impact on the settings of these designated historic assets other than PGW(Gm)1(MER) Cyfarthfa Castle; see below for Inspector's advice

PGW(Gm)1(MER) Cyfarthfa Castle

The application is supported by a Heritage Impact Assessment by Purcell. The HIA explains the need for a drainage solution to control the discharge of rainwater to protect the castle and to develop a permanent solution to drainage issues across the site. Therefore, it is proposed to install a below-ground water drainage network to convey water runoff away from the castle via attenuated, controlled discharge to an existing connection at the south-east of the park.

Cadw has been involved in on site pre-app discussions and as stated in the HIA, the routes have been designed to avoid disturbing park features, including the mature elm north-east of the pavilion. There may be a need to remove a small section of wall between the south terrace and the castle in order to facilitate the drainage runs. The wall is to be made good and restored to its existing appearance on completion of the drainage work.

We note that it is proposed to plant new trees to compensate for those lost during development. We therefore recommend that tree species in keeping with the park's historic character are planted.

Heneb must also be consulted on this application as a watching brief will be required during the proposed works.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Cooper
Historic Environment Branch



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.