

To:

Planning Department
Newport City Council
Civic Centre
Newport
NP20 4UR
Date: [Insert]
Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Outline Planning Application – Alternative Replacement Bridge Scheme at Forge Mews, Bassaleg

Please find enclosed an outline planning application for a replacement single-lane modular bridge at Forge Mews, Bassaleg.

The proposal utilises the existing West Abutment and East Pier, with controlled partial dismantling of the damaged bridge deck and installation of a modular-type structure.

I note that the Council's recent funding application the Welsh government for the £11M offline scheme has been unsuccessful. This reinforces the need for a viable, lower-cost alternative to be considered. This outline application provides such an option and ensures that residents are not left without access while the Council reviews its position.

The existing bridge remains an adopted public highway and no stopping-up order has been made. The Authority therefore retains a statutory duty under Section 41 of the Highways Act 1980 to maintain access. This outline application provides a practical and sustainable means of meeting that duty. This application is submitted in the public interest as a materially different, lower-impact, lower-carbon and significantly lower-cost alternative. This scheme restores vehicular access to 19 homes at a cost under £1M , compared with the Council's £11M offline proposal.
The proposed scheme:

- Reuses existing structural supports previously assessed as sound
- Avoids all in-river works and new foundations
- Maintains pedestrian access throughout construction
- Enables existing services to remain
- Reduces embodied carbon and environmental disturbance
- Restores vehicular access to 19 homes at a cost under £1M
- Avoids the need for a new A467 junction
- Avoids flood modelling requirements due to unchanged river profile
- Leaves Otters under east span undisturbed

The application includes:

Completed application form

Certificate B and Notice 1

Location Plan ,Drawings A3-PDV-1, A3-PDV-2, A3-PDV-3 all Rev 1

Planning Statement PS rev1

Design & Access Statement DAS rev1

Given the significant public interest, cost implications, and the existence of a viable alternative solution, I respectfully request that this application be determined by Planning Committee and a site visit be arranged.

Yours faithfully,

John Blackwell

14 Court Crescent ,Bassaleg, Newport ,South Wales NP108NH