

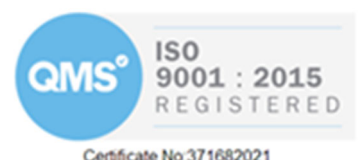
FORMER GLAMAIR UNIT – ABP NEWPORT PRELIMINARY ROOST ASSESSMENT (PRA) AND ACTIVITY SURVEY FOR BATS



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FORMER GLAMAIR UNIT – ABP NEWPORT

PRELIMINARY ROOST ASSESSMENT (PRA) AND ACTIVITY SURVEY FOR BATS

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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is a brief summary of findings and recommendations of the Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA) and activity survey for bats undertaken on behalf of Associated British Ports (hereafter referred to as the client / ABP) at a temporary structure / portable cabin designated as the former 'Glamair' unit at the ABP Newport site, Alexandra Docks, Newport, NP20 2UW. The report should be read in its entirety for full details of the survey.

- The survey comprised of an internal and external inspection of the building to assess its potential to support roosting bats, and identify whether any evidence of bats within the survey buildings was present;
- The proposed development consists of the demolition of the existing building to enable a new development at the site;
- These proposals will result in the potential disturbance and/or destruction of bat roosts if these are present within the survey buildings. Furthermore, noise and vibration from the works may cause disturbance if bats are roosting within different parts of the building or within wider areas of the site;
- Local Record Searches were undertaken using Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs 'MAGIC' geographic mapping software and the Welsh Government and Natural Resources Wales 'DataMapWales' in order to determine the importance of the site from a biodiversity perspective in the context of its surroundings, and to determine the site's proximity to statutory designated sites (if present) within a 1km radius of the survey area;
- The data search returned 2 records of statutory sites within 1km of the survey site. Both records relate to the River Usk, which is located approximately 140m to the north-east of the site, and which is classified as both a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI);
- A total of 2 records of non-statutory designated sites (in the form of a Special Landscape Area (SLA) and Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)) were also returned during the search, with these being located approximately 140m and 400m to the north-east. There are 0 ancient woodlands within 1km of the site;
- Connectivity between the site and better foraging habitat further afield is poor, although the nearby River Usk to the east and a small parcel of woodland to the north-west do offer some commuting and foraging opportunity for bats. The habitat surrounding the survey buildings consists largely of hardstanding, owing to the site's industrial use;
- The PRA was undertaken on Friday 1st August 2025;
- The survey consisted of the inspection of a single-storey temporary cabin structure of approximate 18.5m x 14m dimension. The survey building is constructed from a combination of single-skinned steel and timber cladding and possesses a flat roof, over which an additional small single-skinned steel sheet lean-to roof has been constructed;
- The survey building does not possess a loft;
- No potentially suitable access/egress points for bats to the building interior were identified during the survey;
- Potential Roosting Features (PRFs) for bats within the former Glamair unit are extremely limited. A small 'void' is present above the flat roof of the building, over which an additional small lean-to roof has been constructed to divert rainwater. This void is well-lit during the day, owing to being open on one end, and is not thought to provide sufficient space, shelter, protection or possess the suitable conditions to be used by bats, particularly given that it has been constructed from a single-skinned steel cladding. A small gap is also present behind a steel fascia board on the western side of the building, although again this is not thought to provide sufficient shelter to be utilised by bats;
- **No evidence of bats was identified during the PRA;**

- The results of the PRA indicate that **the building possesses negligible potential to support roosting bats**;
- Based upon the results of the PRA, the survey building is not thought to be utilised for roosting purposes by bats, and subsequently **the proposed demolition works are unlikely to impact detrimentally upon bats**;
- **No further survey effort is recommended with respect to bats** as the findings allow an accurate assessment of the status of bats and the characterisation of the survey building to be made;
- The recommendation is however made that artificial nesting and roosting boxes are erected on mature trees to be retained in the wider port area in order to maintain the favourable conservation status of both nesting birds and bats at the site;
- Full mitigation recommendations are made in Section 6.0 of this report.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Brief

ExCAL Limited was commissioned by Associated British Ports (hereafter referred to as the client / ABP) to undertake a Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA) for bats at a temporary structure / portable cabin designated as the former 'Glamair' unit at the ABP Newport site, Alexandra Docks, Newport, NP20 2UW.

The survey building is scheduled for demolition, to facilitate a future new development at the site.

2.2 Objectives

The purpose of the survey was to assess the buildings' potential to support roosting bats, and to identify any Potential Roosting Features (PRF's) on or within the buildings which may be utilised by bats.

Furthermore, the building was also subjected to a thorough internal and external inspection to determine whether they have historically been / continue to be actively used by bats.

2.3 Site Context

The survey buildings are situated within the grounds of ABP Newport Docks and are located at the former Glamair complex.

The OS grid reference for the approximate centre of the survey building is ST 31570 86018.

The building is located within Newport docks; therefore, the surrounding area consists primarily of industrial buildings, offices and temporary cabins.

North Dock is located approximately 130m to the west of the survey buildings, whilst the immediate surroundings of the survey buildings consist primarily of hardstanding.

The site is bound by East Way Road, which runs along the eastern boundary of the site, beyond which additional industrial units are located. The main site access and associated security gate meanwhile 75m to the north of the survey building. A railway line runs adjacent to the western site boundary.

The River Usk is located approximately 140m to the west of the survey building, and connectivity from the survey buildings to better foraging habitat further afield is generally poor. A small parcel of woodland is however located adjacent to the aforementioned railway line, being situated approximately 15m to the north-west of the survey building, which may offer some commuting and foraging opportunity for bats.

The wider landscape of the area consists of a combination of pastoral fields and associated hedgerows, with Newport Wetlands being located approximately 3km to the south-east of the site, whilst significant industrial sites including a landfill and Cogent Power are located approximately 1km west and 1.1km to the east of the survey building respectively. Newport city centre is located approximately 1.5km to the north of the site.

2.4 Proposed Development

The proposed development consists of the demolition of the existing building in order to enable a new development to occur at the site. These works will result in the potential disturbance and destruction of bat roosts if these are present within any areas of the buildings.

Furthermore, noise and vibration from the works may cause disturbance if bats are roosting within different parts of the building or within wider areas of the site.

2.5 Legislation

All UK bat species and their roosts are protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). All bats are also included in Schedule 2 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) (Habitats Regulations), which defines "European protected species of animals".

The combined legislation makes it illegal to: -

- Intentionally kill, injure or capture bats;
- Deliberately disturb bats (whether in a roost or not);
- Damage, destroy or obstruct access to bat roosts;
- Possess or transport a bat or any part of a bat, unless acquired legally; and
- Sell, barter or exchange bats, or parts of bats.

As a signatory to the Bonn Convention (Agreement of Bats in Europe) the UK is also required to protect their habitats, requiring the identification and protection from damage or disturbance of important feeding areas.

2.6 Limitations

This report has been prepared for the benefit of the client and its contents should not be relied upon by others without the written authority of ExCAL Ltd. Unauthorised third party use of this report is done so at the parties' own risk and ExCAL Ltd owe these parties no duty of care or skill.

3.0 SITE LOCATION

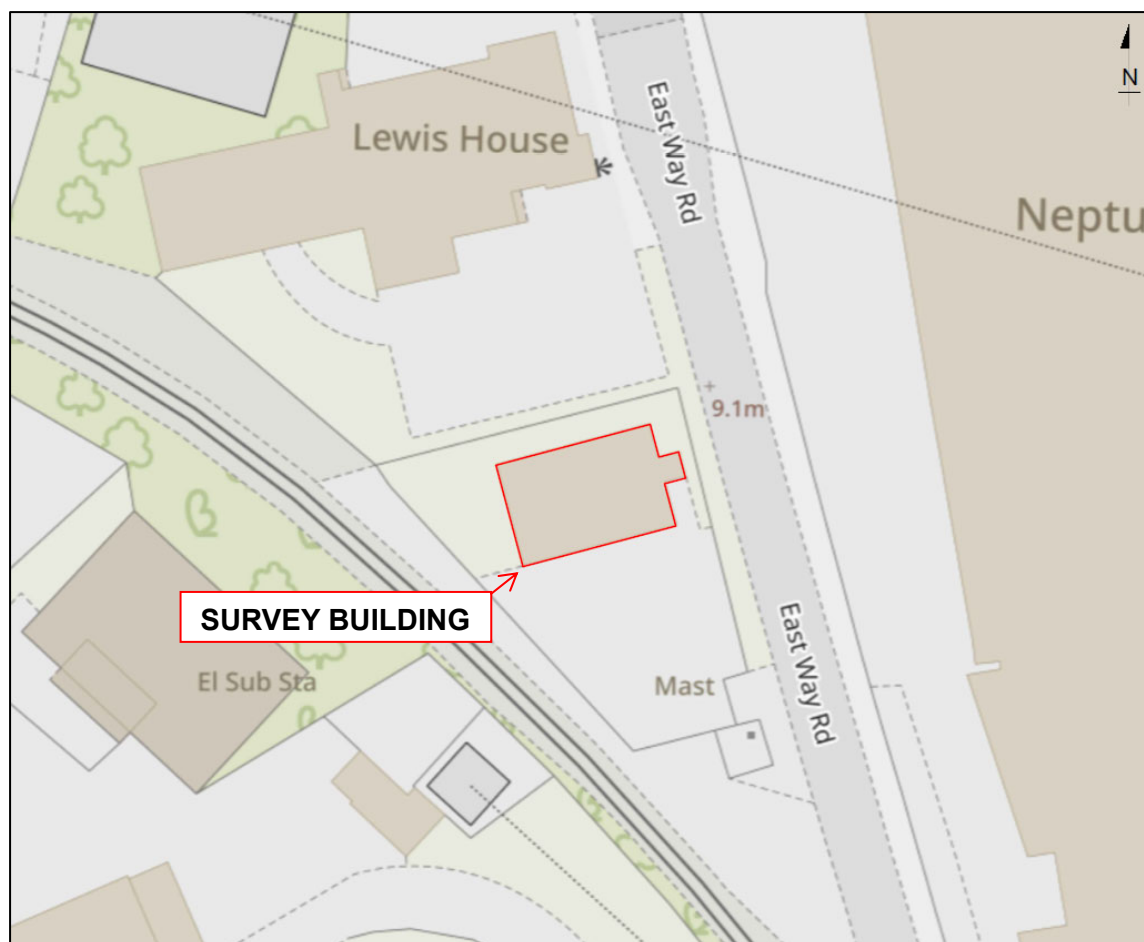
3.1 Site Details

The approximate centre of the survey building is located at Grid Reference ST 31570 86018 and the site address is listed below: -

Former Glamair Unit
Associated British Ports
East Way Road
Newport
NP20 2UW.

The location of the survey building is visible in Figure 1 below: -

Figure 1 – Survey Building



4.0 PRELIMINARY ROOST ASSESSMENT

This report has been designed to comply with the British Standard Biodiversity – Code of practice for planning and development – BS 42020:2013 (BSI, 2013); the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing, Second Edition (CIEEM, 2017) and Bat Conservation Trust – Bat Survey Guidelines, Fourth Edition (Collins, J. 2023).

The building was subjected to an internal and external inspection to assess its potential to support roosting bats.

4.1 Desk Study

Local Record Searches were undertaken using Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs 'MAGIC' geographic mapping software and the Welsh Government and Natural Resources Wales 'DataMapWales' resource in order to determine the importance of the site from a biodiversity perspective in the context of its surroundings, and to determine the site's proximity to statutory designated sites within a 1km radius of the survey area (if present).

4.2 Field Survey

The buildings were surveyed both externally and internally for evidence of (and potential for) bats. The survey was undertaken by Steve Owen, a licenced surveyor (NRW Licence no: **S093409/1**) on 1st August 2025.

The external inspections were undertaken during daylight hours from ground level. The interior of the buildings were also surveyed extensively for evidence of bats and for potential access/egress points for bats. All interior areas of the buildings were accessible during the survey, and the buildings possess no loft spaces.

4.2.1 Preliminary Roost Assessment for Bats

During the PRA, the following evidence was sought: -

- The presence of potential access and egress routes for bats into and out of likely roosting sites and evidence of the use of such potential access points by bats such as scattered droppings, urine staining or scratching around entrances;
- Corpses or skeletons;
- Feeding remains;
- Bat droppings;
- Likely commuting routes and nearby habitat assessment for potential use by bats;
- Any other signs of use by bats including the presence of bats themselves.

In addition the overall site and its associated wider surroundings were also evaluated for the potential to support commuting and/or foraging bat species.

The internal inspections were undertaken during daylight hours and were aided by the use of a high-powered torch. All areas accessible to bats were searched for evidence of bats, including droppings and feeding remains.

Internal signs of roost access and egress points were also sought out during the survey, examples of these could include; light shining into internal building spaces from the exterior of the building or damage to any internal roof linings.

Bats regularly utilise specific areas within buildings which were searched as a priority for any bat fields signs. Examples of these are outlined below: -

- Dividing walls;
- Underneath ridge beams;
- Beneath hip joints and junctions;
- Timber/wall joints;
- Voids between blockwork;
- Staining above/around gaps;

- Droppings around gaps.

Roosting bats and signs of their presence are not always visible, so any potential bat roosting locations were also noted during the survey.

4.3 Preliminary Roost Assessment Survey Limitations

External and internal inspections for bats can be undertaken at any time of year. The survey was conducted using the recommended equipment and was led by a licenced bat worker. Furthermore, all interior and exterior areas of the survey building were accessible.

No significant limitations were noted during the survey and as such, no limitations were recorded which may have impacted the robustness of the results of the PRA for bats.

4.4 Desktop Study

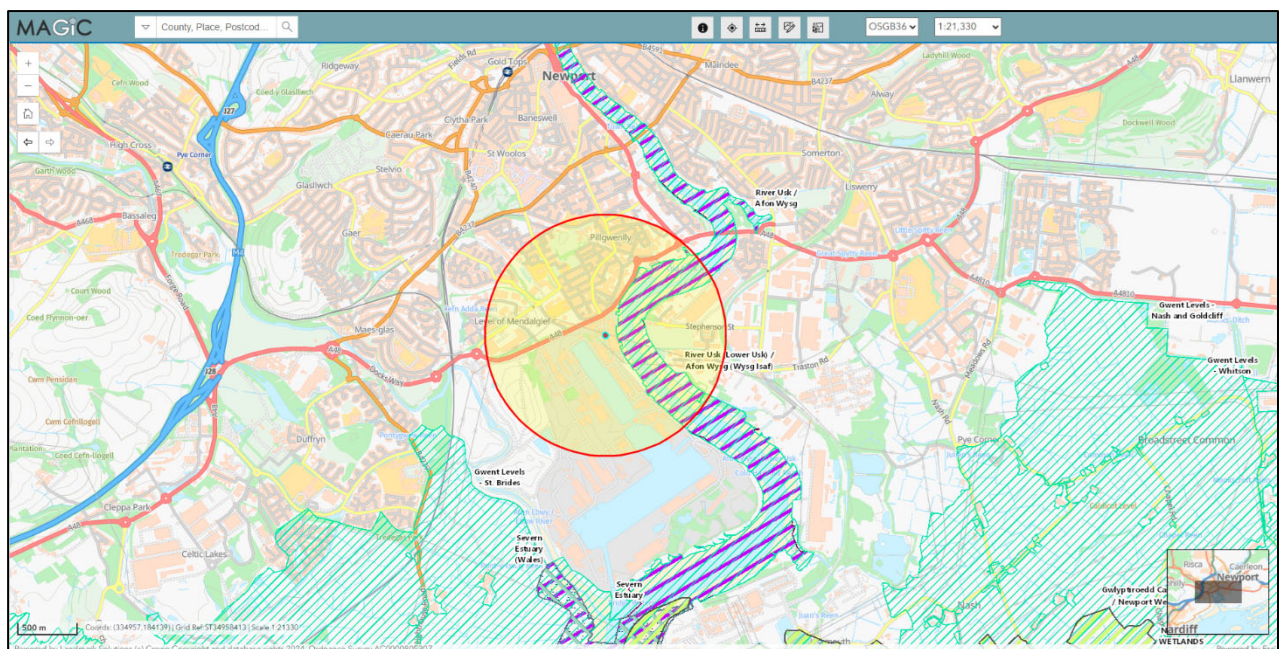
4.4.1 Statutory Designated Sites

The desk study sought to identify records of statutory and non-statutory designated sites within 1km of the survey area.

In total, 2 records of statutory designated sites were returned within 1km of the proposed development site, with both of these pertaining to the River Usk.

The 1km buffer area along with the site location is visible in Figure 2 below: -

Figure 2 – 1km Buffer Area Search Record for Statutory Designated Sites (Adapted from MAGIC)



Details of statutory designated sites within 1km of the survey area are outlined below: -

- River Usk – Special Area of Conservation (SAC) – 0.14km NE;
- River Usk (Lower Usk) – Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – 0.14km NE.

River Usk (SAC & SSSI) – Citation

The River Usk comprises a large, linear ecosystem which acts as an important wildlife corridor, an essential migration route and key breeding area for many nationally and internationally important species.

The Usk is of special interest as a fine example of a river running over sandstones and for its associated plant and animal communities. Its character spans a wide range of types from an upland, base-poor stream to a large lowland river with extensive tidal reaches. Its overall diversity is a product of its underlying geology, soil type, adjacent land-use and fluvio-geomorphological regime.

With respect to bats, the frequent tree cover located along the length of the of the lower River Usk provides valuable feeding and roosting habitats for several bat species including Daubenton's bat (*Myotis daubentonii*). Full citations are available for review in Appendix B – Citations of Designated Sites.

4.4.2 Non-Statutory Designated Sites

The Newport Local Development Plan (LDP) mapping resource was utilised in order to determine whether any non-statutory designated sites are located within 1km of the survey building.

The desk study subsequently returned 2 records of a non-statutory ecologically designated site within 1km of the survey area.

The first of these records consists of the River Usk Special Landscape Area (SLA), with this being located approximately 140m to the north-east of the survey buildings. The second record meanwhile consists of an unnamed Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) located adjacent to the eastern side of the River Usk, 400m to the north-east.

SLAs represent a non-statutory designation which was identified following a formal assessment of the landscape qualities of the county. In this regard their designation seeks to utilise 'outstanding' categorisations supported where appropriate by those classified as 'high'.

Whilst not intended to necessarily preclude development, it is intended to reflect the emphasis placed upon the term 'special' in their definition. The design of developments should be sensitive enough to ensure that the scheme makes a positive contribution to the landscape. In this regard, proposals will be expected to show that they will not have an unacceptable impact on their specific distinctive features or characteristics of the SLA.

Although there are no protections afforded to SINC's as a result of their designation, they often contain nationally rare, threatened or priority species and habitats, therefore playing a critical role in conservation of the UK's natural heritage.

The non-statutory designated sites located within 1km of the proposed development site suggest that the habitats surrounding the site are likely ecologically rich in nature and in turn likely support protected or priority species.

4.4.3 Ancient Woodland

There are no ancient woodlands within 1km of the survey site.

4.5 Preliminary Roost Assessment for Bats

4.5.1 Building Exterior

The survey consisted of the inspection of a single-storey temporary cabin structure, designated as the former Glamair unit.

The survey building is rectangular in shape and of approximate 18.5m x 14m dimension. The northern and western walls of the building have been constructed from single-skinned steel corrugated sheeting, which proceeds up to roof level in these locations.

The southern and eastern walls meanwhile have been constructed from a combination of corrugated steel sheeting, which proceeds from ground level to ~1.5m, with the remaining ~2m of the walls up to roof level having been constructed from timber cladding.

The survey building possesses a flat roof which has been finished with roofing felt, over which an additional lean-to / flat roof type has been constructed. This additional roof appears to have been constructed in order to divert rainwater from the flat roof situated beneath.

Photographs of the exterior of the survey building are visible in Figures 3 – 8 below: -

Figure 3 – (S) Aspect of Glamair Looking (NW)



Figure 4 – (N) Aspect of Glamair, Looking (SE)



Figure 5 – (SW) Corner of Glamair, Looking (NE)



Figure 6 – (SE) Corner of Glamair, Looking (NW)



Figure 7 – Gap above Timber Cladding on (S) Wall of Survey Building Enables Access/Egress for Bats to Small Void Located Between the Two ‘Roofs’ of the Building



Figure 8 – Void Present Between Flat Roof of Survey Building and Additional ‘Roof’ Situated above. Although access to this void could be gained by Bats, there are Limited PRFs suitable for bats Situated Within



The additional aforementioned roof has been constructed from single-skinned steel cladding, set on timber framework, and is enclosed from the northern side of the building, but is open ended on the southern side (as visible in Figure 8).

Subsequently, a small void is present above the flat roof of the building itself (as visible in Figure 9).

Although access to this void could be gained by bats, there are limited PRFs for bats within the void, and the void does not provide enough space, shelter or suitable conditions to be used by bats on a regular basis.

As discussed, the walls of the survey building have been constructed from a combination of corrugated steel and timber cladding. Both cladding types were observed to be in generally excellent condition during the survey, with no areas of damage being recorded which bats may be able to utilise as a PRF or for access/egress to the building interior.

Furthermore, the timber cladding was observed to be tightly affixed to the building and well-sealed, with no suitable areas being identified in which either crevice or void-dwelling bats could roost.

The building possesses a number of UPVC windows along the northern, western and southern aspects. The windows were observed to be well-sealed, with no damage being recorded to the windowpanes during the PRA. The interior of the building is subsequently very well-lit by natural light during the day, reducing the building's potential to be utilised as a day roost.

Access to the building is granted via a pedestrian doorway on the southern side of the building. This doorway is constructed from UPVC and glass, and both features were observed to be in excellent condition.

The building possesses steel fascia boards on the western side of the building. A small gap is present behind the boards which could be used opportunistically by individual bats, although this is highly unlikely given the exposed nature of the building, and due to the building possessing a flat roof with no interior loft.

All exterior areas of the building (including the small void above the building) were surveyed for evidence of bats (feeding remains, droppings, smudging, urine staining, droppings, live bats etc.) with none being identified during the survey.

4.5.2 Building Interior

Main Survey Building

The interior of the survey building was formerly used as office space. The interior consists of a single floor, which was observed to be very well-lit by natural light during the day, owing to the presence of numerous windows along the northern, southern and western walls of the building. Subsequently, the interior of the building is not suitable to be utilised as a day roost for bats.

The interior of the survey building are visible in Figures 9 & 10 below: -

Figure 9 – Glamair Unit Interior, Looking (NE)



Figure 10 – Glamair Unit Interior, Looking (S)



The interior walls of the building, owing to its former use as an office, has been finished with plasterboard and timber panelling render, which was in generally excellent condition, although evidence of damage from a suspected previous asbestos survey was recorded in some areas.

No access/egress points to the building interior were identified during the PRA. Furthermore, there are limited internal PRFs for bats in within the interior of the survey building.

The survey building is currently unoccupied, however, traffic movements around the buildings are high, owing to the main access road of the ABP Newport site (East Way Road) being situated immediately adjacent to the eastern boundary of the survey area, with a number of traffic movements including HGVs and large plant being active in the nearby vicinity of the survey buildings. Subsequently, the levels of noise and disturbance within and around the building have historically and continue to be high.

All interior areas of the survey building were surveyed extensively for evidence of bats in the form of feeding remains, smudging, droppings, live bats etc. with no evidence of bats being identified.

4.5.3 Signs of Bats

The survey buildings were inspected for evidence of bats including but not limited to; feeding remains, droppings, smudging, staining and other evidence during the PRA.

No evidence of bats was identified during the PRA.

4.5.4 Potential Access for Bats

No potential access or egress points for bats to the building interior were recorded during the survey.

4.5.5 Potential Features for Bats

Both the interior and exterior of the building were inspected thoroughly for suitable features for bats and any evidence of bat use.

It should be noted that, although providing extremely limited roosting opportunity, PRFs for bats identified within the building include: -

- **Small Void above Flat Roof of Building:** A small void is present between the flat roof of the survey building, and the additional second corrugated steel 'roof' situated above. No evidence of bats was identified in the void, and the void is not considered to provide sufficient size, shelter or conditions to support bats;
- **Small Gap behind Fascia Board on Western Side of Survey Building:** A small gap is present behind the steel fascia board on the western side of the building. With that being said, the building possesses a flat roof, does not possess a loft and the building is exposed, and subsequently it is unlikely that this feature would realistically be utilised by bats;

As discussed, the above PRFs offer extremely limited potential for bats, and would only be utilised should no other option be available.

With the above in mind, the PRA concluded that; given no evidence of bats was observed during the PRA, no suitable access/egress points to the building were identified, and due to limited suitable PRFs both within and outside of the survey building being recorded during the survey, **the survey buildings possess negligible potential to support roosting bats.**

5.0 DISCUSSION

5.1 BCT Good Practice Guidelines

5.1.1 Suitability of Proposed Development Sites for Bats

Table 4.1 within the BCT Good Practice Guidelines state the following guidelines for assessing the potential suitability of proposed development sites for bats, based on the presence of habitat features within the landscape, to be applied using professional judgement: -

- **None:** - No habitat features on site likely to be used by any roosting bats at any time of the year (complete absence of crevices / suitable shelter);
- **Negligible:** - No obvious habitat features on site likely to be used by roosting bats, however a small element of uncertainty remains as bats can use small and apparently unsuitable features on occasion;
- **Low:** - A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by individual bats opportunistically at any time of the year. However, these potential roost sites do not provide enough space, shelter, protection, appropriate conditions and/or suitable surrounding habitat to be used on a regular basis or by larger number of bats; (i.e. unlikely to be suitable for maternity or hibernation);
- **Moderate:** - A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by bats due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat, but unlikely to support a roost of high conservation status (with respect to roost type only, such as maternity and hibernation);
- **High:** - A structure or tree with one or more potential roost sites that are obviously suitable for use by larger number of bats on a more regular basis and potentially for longer periods of time due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat. These structures have the potential to support high conservation status roosts e.g. maternity or classic cool/sable hibernation site.

5.1.2 Presence / Absence Surveys for Bats

Furthermore, BCT Good Practice Guidelines state that further surveys (particularly presence/absence surveys) are required if: -

- The preliminary roost assessment has not ruled out the reasonable likelihood of a roost being present (because there are locations with potential for bats to roost undetected in concealed cracks, crevices or voids), but no definitive evidence of the presence of bat roosts has been recorded;
- Potential roost features inspection survey has identified moderate and high suitability potential roost features, but no definitive evidence of the presence of bats has been established;
- A comprehensive inspection survey is not possible due to restricted access, but features are present with a reasonable likelihood of supporting bats;
- There is a risk that evidence of bat use may have been removed by weather or human activities.

The aims of these surveys would be to determine the presence or absence of bats at the time of the survey and the need for further surveys and/or mitigation.

If sufficient areas of a structure have been inspected and no evidence found, then further surveys may not be appropriate.

However, if there is a reasonable likelihood that bat roosts could be present and particularly if there are areas inaccessible for survey, then further surveys may be required proportionate to the circumstances encountered.

5.1.3 Roost Characterisation Surveys

Where evidence of bats has been established during a PRA (for example, where droppings are found), roost characterisation surveys in the form of dusk emergence surveys should be undertaken.

The aim of roost characterisation surveys and dusk emergence surveys is to establish: -

- Are bat roosts present or likely to be absent;
- Which bat species use the site for roosting;
- How many bats do these roosts support;
- Where are the bat roost access points;
- Where are the bat roosts;
- At what times of the year are bats present, and how does use change seasonally;
- What types of bat roost are present;
- What flight-lines do the bats use after emerging from the roost has been identified during a PRA.

By answering the above questions, a licenced ecologist will be able to undertake an impact assessment, and design a mitigation, enhancement and monitoring strategy where relevant.

The level of survey effort required to collect the relevant information to design an impact assessment and associated mitigation strategy is site-specific, and appropriate surveys should be repeated until the above information has been collected. Appropriate methods and equipment should be used to minimise the number of repeat visits however, and effort should always be proportionate to impact.

Where presence of bats is established during a PRA, but roost characterisation surveys have not recorded any bat presence, it may be necessary to carry out further surveys at alternative times of the year.

It should be noted however that further surveys may provide no return, and it may be necessary to proceed with the information collected from both the PRA and surveys undertaken to date in this instance.

5.2 Discussion

5.2.1 Preliminary Roost Assessment Summary

The former Glamair unit was surveyed in detail on 1st August 2025 to assess its potential to support roosting bats. The PRA concluded that the survey building possesses **negligible** potential to support roosting bats due to: -

- **No Evidence of Bats was Identified:** - no evidence of bats in the form of droppings, smudging, urine staining, feeding remains etc. was identified during an extensive internal and external survey of the building, including within the void between the flat roof and additional roof above the building, and in and around the timber cladding making up the southern and eastern exterior building walls;
- **No Suitable Access / Egress Points to the building Interior:** - no gaps, holes or other damaged areas or openings which may permit access/egress for bats to the building interior were recorded during the survey. Well-sealed joints are present between windows and doors, and all cladding is in generally excellent condition, with no damaged areas being recorded which may be utilised by bats as a PRF, or which may permit access/egress to the building interior;
- **Limited Suitable PRFs for Bats:** - The survey building provides very few potential roosting features which may be utilised by bats. Although a small void is present above the flat roof of the building, the open nature of the void and the way in which it has been constructed (single-skin steel cladding) means that this void is not thought to be of sufficient size or space, and does not provide sufficient shelter to be utilised by bats. Furthermore, although the small gap behind the fascia on the western side of the survey building is of sufficient size to enable crevice-dwelling bats to enter, it does not provide sufficient shelter or roosting potential to be realistically be utilised by bats for this purpose. No other PRFs were identified during the PRA;
- **High Levels of Light & Disturbance:** - The interior of the building and void above the flat roof are very well lit by natural light during the day, reducing the building's potential to be utilised as a day roost. Furthermore, high levels of heavy traffic and human activity are present in the vicinity of the survey building, owing to the main port access road being located immediately adjacent to the eastern side of the building, whilst the site is also well illuminated at night by surrounding spotlights. These factors further reduce the building's potential to be utilised as a roost by bats.

Based upon the above, **no further survey effort is recommended with respect to bats at the former Glamair Unit.**

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Potential Impact of Proposals

The survey building was assessed as having **negligible** potential to support roosting bats and as such, the proposed demolition works are unlikely to impact detrimentally on bats.

Subsequently, **no further survey effort is recommended with respect to bats.**

With the above being said, the implementation of appropriate bat and nesting bird mitigation and compensatory roosts / nests would help to achieve a Net Benefit for Biodiversity at the site, and will ensure that the favourable conservation status of both species is maintained.

6.2 Mitigation Strategy

The following sections outline the mitigation recommendations made to improve the conservation status of both bats and nesting birds at the proposed development site.

6.2.1 Mitigation Strategy Details

The following section recommends mitigation in order to maintain and enhance the site's potential to support both crevice and void-dwelling bats along with nesting birds.

Where planning permission may be required to facilitate the proposals, a Net Benefit for Biodiversity strategy may be required as part of these proposals in order to comply with both Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales and the Environment Act (Wales) 2016.

This could consist of the installation of the following at the site: -

- 2 no. Schwegler 1FF Bat Boxes to be installed on retained trees on site;
- 2 no. Schwegler 1B Nest Box to be installed on retained trees on site.

If any of the above products / enhancements are not available, then further advice must be sought from a suitably qualified ecologist regarding a suitable replacement product / proposal.

Crevice-dweller Mitigation

Additional new roosting for bats can be created by fitting 2 no. Schwegler 1FF Bat Boxes on trees to be retained as part of the proposals.

These are to be fitted as high as possible on a suitable tree, and care must be taken to leave the access/egress slot at the bottom exposed for access. Where practical, all bat features should be located far enough from any windows to avoid any direct light spill, at least a minimum of 2 metres away.

The installation will be dependent on permissions from the LPA and must be undertaken by a licenced ecologist.

The above methods are relatively unintuitive in nature, and are an effective way at improving the site's long-term potential to support crevice-dwelling bats.

It is important to ensure that there is to be no direct illumination of any roost exit points. Any external lighting will be controlled by passive infrared.

The installation of any bat mitigation features is to be undertaken under supervision by a suitably qualified ecologist.



Nesting Bird Mitigation

2 no. Schwegler 1B Nest Boxes can also be installed on retained trees present on site.

Any nesting bird mitigation will not be suited on a southern elevation as this may experience excess heat from the sun.

Direct and prolonged illumination of the buildings, especially near any roost entry points or bird boxes must be avoided as this will cause disturbance.

On occasions the suggested mitigation can be in short supply. Mitigation should subsequently be ordered as soon as is practicable in order to avoid potential supply issues during the construction phase.

If supply is depleted, advice should be sought from a suitably qualified ecologist on a suitable replacement prior to the purchase.

6.2.2 Mitigation Location Details

The proposed mitigation should be installed on mature trees to be retained on site.

Mitigation must not be placed within locations on site in which future development is anticipated, in order to protect any species which may nest or roost within these features from harm in the future.

6.2.3 Lighting

The potential impacts of lighting during and post-development on bats must be considered. The lighting of all areas of the site both during and post-development must be designed to avoid any impacts on bats.

Light spill onto sensitive areas which have the potential to be used by commuting and foraging bats should be limited to levels of 1 lux or less (where possible), with no directed light onto hedges or trees, or enhancement roost features.

Suggestions for achieving this and for mitigating the lighting impact on bats are outlined in the best practice guidance developed by the Institute of Lighting Professionals (ILP) document 'Bats and Artificial Lighting at Night' (Guidance Note GN08/23) (2018) which was chaired by the Bat Conservation Trust Bats (BCT).and Lighting in the UK (BCT, 2007). These include: -

- Using low or high pressure sodium lights instead of mercury or metal halide lamps;
- Directing lighting to where needed and avoiding spillage, and design luminaires appropriately using hoods, cowls, shields etc. to avoid spillage;
- Any proposed roadways, footways and car parks should where possible be lit using bollards to keep the light below head height (~1.5m);
- Using lighting modelling programs to indicate where the light spill will occur if appropriate;
- Using the minimal level of lighting required to comply with guidance such as Institute of Lighting Engineers Guidance Notes for the Reduction of Obtrusive Light (2005);
- Using movement sensors or timers on security lighting;
- Not using a lamp greater than 150W for security lighting.

Any lights associated with on-site buildings must be angled or screened to minimise light spill up onto the soffits/eaves, and on any newly installed roost openings.

6.3 Recommendations

No further survey work is recommended with respect to bats.

The recommendation is however made that nesting bird and bat boxes should be installed on retained trees on site, as per Section 6.3 of this report. The installation of these features will help the demolition proposals achieve a Net Benefit for Biodiversity at the site, by providing new nesting and roosting opportunities for bats and birds respectively.

7.0 REFERENCES

CIEEM (2017) *Guidelines on Ecological Report Writing, Second Edition*. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.

Collins, J. (2024) *Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (4th edition)*. The Bat Conservation Trust, London.

DEFRA Magic Mapping Resource (2025) Biodiversity Information. *magic.defra.gov.uk*. Available: <https://magic.defra.gov.uk/magicmap.aspx>

HM Government (2010) Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. HM Government.

Mitchell-Jones, A.J, & McLeish, A.P. Ed., (2004), 3rd Edition Bat Workers' Manual, JNCC.

Welsh Government & Natural Resources Wales, DataMapWales (2025) Biodiversity Information. *datamapwales.gov.wales*. Available: <https://datamap.gov.wales/>

APPENDIX A

Drawings



Notes:		A3
Site Boundary		
Job: Associated British Ports, Newport - Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, Glamair		
Title: Survey Building Red Line Boundary		
Date: October 2025		
Scale: NTS		
Drawn by: SO		
Checked by: ER		
ExCAL ExCAL House, Capel Hendre Ind. Est. Ammanford Carmarthenshire SA18 3SJ Tel: 01269 831606 Fax: 01269 841867 Website: www.excaluk.com E-mail: info@excaluk.com		
Drawing No: 238-03-19.D01		
Revision No:	Date: 13/10/2025	

APPENDIX B

Citations of Designated Sites

**CYNGOR CEFN GWLAD CYMRU
COUNTRYSIDE COUNCIL FOR WALES**

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

MONMOUTHSHIRE/NEWPORT

**RIVER USK (LOWER USK)/
AFON WYSG (WYSG ISAF)**

Date of Notification: 1996

National Grid References: SN 239239- ST317837

O.S. Maps:

1:50000 Sheet Numbers:	160, 161, 171
1:10000 Sheet Numbers:	ST 38 SW, ST 30 SW ST 38 NW, ST 30 SE ST 39 SW, ST 30 NE ST 39 SE, ST 30 NW ST 39 NE, SO 31 SW SO 21 SE

Site Area: 543.9 ha

Description:

River Usk

The River Usk comprises a large, linear ecosystem which acts as an important wildlife corridor, an essential migration route and key breeding area for many nationally and internationally important species. The Usk is of special interest as a fine example of a river running over sandstones and for its associated plant and animal communities. Its character spans a wide range of types from an upland, base-poor stream to a large lowland river with extensive tidal reaches. Its overall diversity is a product of its underlying geology, soil type, adjacent land-use and fluvio-geomorphological regime.

The River Usk is one of the largest rivers in Wales. From its source to its confluence, the main channel is over 120 kilometres long, and drains a catchment of 1358 km². Rising at an altitude of 500 metres on Mynydd Ddu on the Carmarthenshire/Powys border, the Usk flows eastwards along the northern scarp of the Brecon Beacons, turning south below Abergavenny and meandering down through Monmouthshire to its confluence with the Severn Estuary below Newport.

River Usk (Lower Usk) (Abergavenny - Newport)

The River Usk (Lower Usk) is a rare example of a large mesotrophic lowland river which has not been subject to significant modification by man. Of particular significance to the river's morphology and biology are the extensive deposits of fluvio-glacial and alluvial material in the Usk valley between Abergavenny and Newport. The Lower Usk has developed a wide floodplain with a complex and active system of meanders, cut-off and back channels which

contribute to the biological interest and diversity of the site.

The main plant communities present are those that are characteristic of rivers running over hard and soft sandstones with changing base status merging into brackish waters in its lowest reaches.

The river shows a clear downstream succession in plant communities due in part to the rapid transition from mesotrophic to nutrient rich in its lower reaches and increasing salinity as it nears its confluence with the Severn Estuary.

The invertebrate fauna is characteristic of a large lowland river. Of special interest are the crane flies associated with silty river margins in the vicinity of Newbridge on Usk. The fish fauna is of international significance including several rare and scarce species and there is an expanding population of otters *Lutra lutra*. Several scarce higher plant species occurring along the river's tidal reaches are also of special interest.

Whilst not a special feature of the site, there is a good range of breeding birds associated with riverine habitats.

The SSSI incorporates adjacent areas of riparian habitat which directly support the special interest of the river. These include woodlands dominated by alder *Alnus glutinosa* and willows *Salix spp.*, marshy grassland, stands of tall herb, swamp and fen vegetation, salt-marsh and coastal grassland.

Geology and Topography

The catchment of the Lower Usk is predominantly low lying, the eastern part of the Brecon Beacons and South Wales Coalfield Massif being the most significant upland areas within it. The River Usk (Lower Usk) is thus lowland in character, meandering across a floodplain up to 3 km across and falling from 100m AOD at Abergavenny to sea level over a distance of 68 km.

Between Abergavenny and Llanfair Kilgeddin, the river flows over the marls, mudstones and sandstones of the Raglan and St Maughan's beds of the Lower Old Red Sandstone Series. The river bed of the Lower Usk is however, also strongly influenced by the extensive fluvio-glacial and alluvial deposits between Abergavenny and Usk. At Llanfair Kilgeddin the river initially follows the line of the Pontypool Road Fault separating the Lower Old Red Sandstone rocks in the north-west from the older limestones and mudstones of the Ludlow (Silurian) series in the south. As the river crosses onto the more resistant Silurian Ludlow Series it has cut down to the bedrock in a number of places creating a rock based channel that is in marked contrast to the silt and gravel based channel upstream.

Above Usk, the valley narrows cutting through the resistant limestones and marls of the Ludlow Series to form the Llanbadoc Gap. Below this point the river again flows over the marls, mudstones and sandstones of the Raglan and St Maughan's beds until it crosses onto the Triassic Keuper Marls at Newport Docks. The great depth of alluvial and glacial deposits within the valley from Llanbadoc Gap to the River's confluence with the Severn Estuary means that the underlying geology has little direct influence on the river.

The Lower Usk has a relatively natural fluvio-geomorphic regime and has remained relatively free from straightening, widening or deepening schemes. The section of the river between Caerleon and Usk is particularly active with migrating meanders depositing shingle point bars and islands and cutting vertical earth cliffs. The pattern of meander loops along the entire length of the river from Abergavenny to Newport is complex, steep outer slopes contrasting with shallow slip-off slopes. Large abandoned meander loops such as the one at Llanfihangel Gobion indicate the former course of the River Usk as it flowed across and created its floodplain. Oxbow lakes and active back channels remain adjacent to the river in places.

Flora

In its middle and upper reaches the river channel is characterized by the frequent occurrence of floating and submerged plants including water crowfoot and water milfoils *Myriophyllum spp.* Aquatic macrophytes disappear below the tidal limit at Newbridge on Usk although emergent species are able to tolerate the transition zone between brackish and freshwater conditions.

Riverside rocks and boulders are characterised by a flora of mosses, such as *Amblystegium fluviatile*, *Cinclidotus fontinalioides*, *Fontinalis antipyretica*, *Rhynchostegium riparioides* and *Thamnobryum alopecurum*, liverworts, such as *Chiloscyphus polyanthus*, *Conocephalum conicum*, and *Marchantia polymorpha*, the filamentous alga *Lemanea fluviatilis* and lichens of the genera *Verrucaria*.

Marginal vegetation is dominated variously by reed canary-grass *Phalaris arundinacea*, branched bur reed *Sparganium erectum*, common spike-rush *Eleocharis palustris* and lesser pond-sedge *Carex acutiformis* with a variety of other species including brooklime *Veronica beccabunga*, water forget-me-not *Myosotis scorpioides*, water mint *Mentha aquatica* and yellow cress *Rorippa spp.* Below Newbridge the upper mud banks of the river are colonized by saltmarsh species such as sea aster *Aster tripolium*, saltmarsh-grass *Puccinellia spp.* and scurvygrass *Cochlearia spp.*

Characteristic riverbank plants include stinging nettle *Urtica dioica*, great willowherb *Epilobium hirsutum* and Indian balsam *Impatiens glandulifera*. Locally the river bank vegetation can be more diverse and supports species such as common knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, Meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria* and comfrey *Symphytum spp.*. Occasionally inundated grassland along the tidal reaches is dominated by couch grass *Elytrigia repens* and supports regionally rare species including bulbous foxtail *Alopecurus bulbosus*, marsh-mallow *Althaea officinalis* and marsh helleborine *Epipactis palustris*.

The river banks are frequently lined with willows and alder. In addition, there are larger areas of woodland adjacent to the river dominated by these species or by sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* and ash *Fraxinus excelsior*.

The River Usk (Lower Usk) floodplain retains a number of important geomorphological features and associated wetland habitats. In particular at Llanviangel Gobion, south of Abergavenny, a large cut off meander has areas of standing water, emergent and marshy vegetation and shingle. The areas of standing water support diverse still water plant communities dominated by Canadian waterweed *Elodea canadensis* with frequent broad-leaved pondweed *Potamogeton natans*, sweet-grasses *Glyceria spp.*, fool's water-cress *Apium nodiflorum*, pink water-speedwell

Veronica catenata and common water-plantain *Alisma plantago aquatica*, together with by stands of common spike-rush, rushes *Juncus spp.* and lesser spearwort *Ranunculus flammula*.

Mammals

The common otter *Lutra lutra* is widespread along the length of the river where appropriate bankside cover exists. The frequent tree cover provides valuable feeding and roosting habitats for several bat species including Daubenton's bat *Myotis daubentonii*.

Birds

The River Usk (Lower Usk) supports a wide range of riverside breeding birds such as sand martin *Riparia riparia* and kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* nesting in eroding earth cliffs. Yellow wagtail *Motacilla flava*, grey wagtail *M. cinerea* and dipper *Cinclus cinclus* occur with increasing frequency above the tidal limit at Newbridge. In addition marsh warbler *Acrocephalus palustris* breeds in riparian habitat along the river banks. The cut-off meander at Llanfihangel Gobion is an important area for wintering and passage migrants including teal *Anas crecca*, greenshank *Tringa nebularia* and green sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*.

Fish

The river has a wide range of migratory and non-migratory fish species. The most abundant coarse fish include chub *Leuciscus cephalus*, roach *Rutilus rutilus* and dace *Leuciscus leuciscus* which, together with the bullhead, are the most widely distributed fish along the river.

The rare river lamprey *Lampetra fluviatilis* and twaite shad *Alosa fallax* and the very rare allis shad *Alosa alosa* all migrate from the Severn Estuary and spawn at various localities in the river. Large numbers of elvers *Anguilla anguilla* migrate up the river with spring tides.

The Usk is a notable game fish river with species including brown trout *Salmo trutta fario*, sea trout *Salmo trutta trutta* and Atlantic salmon *Salmo salar*, the latter migrating up along the lower river, in order to reach spawning grounds in the headwaters and tributaries of the River Usk (Upper Usk). The river also supports an important population of the non-migratory brook lamprey *Lampetra planeri*.

Invertebrates

The lower Usk has important assemblages of craneflies including rare and scarce species such as *Limonia omissinervis*, *Erioptera limbata* and *Rhabdomastix hilaris*, *Gonomyia abbreviata* and *Cheilotrichia imbuta*. The rare mayfly *Potamanthus luteus* can be found in the river and there are also localised populations of the Atlantic stream crayfish *Austropotamobius pallipes*, an endangered species in Europe.

Remarks:

The site supports the following habitats and species covered by the EC Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild flora and fauna:

Common otter *Lutra lutra* - Annex II and IV
Allis shad *Alosa alosa* - Annex II and V
Twaite shad *Alosa fallax* - Annex II and V
Brook lamprey *Lampetra planeri* - Annex II
River lamprey *Lampetra fluviatilis* - Annex II and V
Bullhead *Cottus gobio* - Annex II
Atlantic salmon *Salmo salar* - Annex II and V
Atlantic stream crayfish *Austropotamobius pallipes* - Annex II and V

Otter and Atlantic stream crayfish are also listed in schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended.

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STANDARD DATA FORM for sites within the 'UK national site network of European sites'

Special Protection Areas (SPAs) are classified and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) are designated under:

- the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) in England and Wales (including the adjacent territorial sea) and to a limited extent in Scotland (reserved matters) and Northern Ireland (excepted matters);
- the Conservation (Natural Habitats &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended) in Scotland;
- the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended) in Northern Ireland; and
- the Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) in the UK offshore area.

Each SAC or SPA (forming part of the UK national site network of European sites) has its own Standard Data Form containing site-specific information. The information provided here generally follows the same documenting format for SACs and SPAs, as set out in the [Official Journal of the European Union recording the Commission Implementing Decision of 11 July 2011 \(2011/484/EU\)](#).

Please note that these forms contain a number of codes, all of which are explained either within the data forms themselves or in the end notes.

More general information on SPAs and SACs in the UK is available from the [SPA homepage](#) and [SAC homepage](#) on the JNCC website. These webpages also provide links to Standard Data Forms for all SAC and SPA sites in the UK.

<https://jncc.gov.uk/>



NATURA 2000 - STANDARD DATA FORM

For Special Protection Areas (SPA),
Proposed Sites for Community Importance (pSCI),
Sites of Community Importance (SCI) and
for Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)

SITE UK0013007
SITENAME River Usk/ Afon Wysg

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- [2. SITE LOCATION](#)
- [3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION](#)
- [4. SITE DESCRIPTION](#)
- [5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS AND RELATION WITH CORINE BIOTOPES](#)
- [6. SITE MANAGEMENT](#)

1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code UK0013007	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

River Usk/ Afon Wysg

1.4 First Compilation date 1998-03	1.5 Update date 2015-12
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1.6 Respondent:

Name/Organisation: Joint Nature Conservation Committee
Address: Joint Nature Conservation Committee Monkstone House City Road Peterborough PE1 1JY
Email:

Date site proposed as SCI:	1998-03
Date site confirmed as SCI:	2004-12
Date site designated as SAC:	2004-12
National legal reference of SAC designation:	Regulations 11 and 13-15 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2010/490/contents/made).

2. SITE LOCATION

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2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

-3.013888889

51.79583333

967.97

0.0

0.0

2.5 Administrative region code and name

Region Name

UKL2	East Wales
UKL1	West Wales and The Valleys

2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)

Atlantic (100.0%)

3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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3.1 Habitat types present on the site and assessment for them

Annex I Habitat types						Site assessment			
Code	PF	NP	Cover [ha]	Cave [number]	Data quality	A B C D	A B C		
						Representativity	Relative Surface	Conservation	Global
1130 0			134.55	0	G	D			
1140 0			123.9	0	G	D			
1330 0			29.04	0	M	D			
3260 0			29.04	0	M	B	C	B	C
9130 0			4.84	0	G	D			
9180 0	X		21.3	0	G	D			
91A0 0			12.58	0	G	D			
91D0 0	X		2.9	0	G	D			

91E0	X		43.56	0	G	D			
------	---	--	-------	---	---	---	--	--	--

- **PF:** for the habitat types that can have a non-priority as well as a priority form (6210, 7130, 9430) enter "X" in the column PF to indicate the priority form.
- **NP:** in case that a habitat type no longer exists in the site enter: x (optional)
- **Cover:** decimal values can be entered
- **Caves:** for habitat types 8310, 8330 (caves) enter the number of caves if estimated surface is not available.
- **Data quality:** G = 'Good' (e.g. based on surveys); M = 'Moderate' (e.g. based on partial data with some extrapolation); P = 'Poor' (e.g. rough estimation)

3.2 Species referred to in Article 4 of Directive 2009/147/EC and listed in Annex II of Directive 92/43/EEC and site evaluation for them

Species					Population in the site						Site assessment			
G	Code	Scientific Name	S	NP	T	Size		Unit	Cat.	D.qual.	A B C D	A B C		
						Min	Max				Pop.	Con.	Iso.	Gl
F	1102	Alosa alosa			p				P	DD	C	C	C	C
F	1103	Alosa fallax			p				P	DD	A	B	C	A
I	1092	Austropotamobius pallipes			p				P	DD	D			
F	1163	Cottus gobio			p				P	DD	B	B	C	B
F	1099	Lampetra fluviatilis			p				P	DD	B	A	C	A
F	1096	Lampetra planeri			p				P	DD	B	B	C	A
M	1355	Lutra lutra			p	11	50	i		M	C	B	C	B
I	1029	Margaritifera margaritifera			p				P	DD	D			
F	1095	Petromyzon marinus			p				P	DD	B	B	C	B
M	1303	Rhinolophus hipposideros			p				P	DD	D			
F	1106	Salmo salar			p				P	DD	A	C	C	A

- **Group:** A = Amphibians, B = Birds, F = Fish, I = Invertebrates, M = Mammals, P = Plants, R = Reptiles
- **S:** in case that the data on species are sensitive and therefore have to be blocked for any public access enter: yes
- **NP:** in case that a species is no longer present in the site enter: x (optional)
- **Type:** p = permanent, r = reproducing, c = concentration, w = wintering (for plant and non-migratory species use permanent)
- **Unit:** i = individuals, p = pairs or other units according to the Standard list of population units and codes in accordance with Article 12 and 17 reporting (see [reference portal](#))
- **Abundance categories (Cat.):** C = common, R = rare, V = very rare, P = present - to fill if data are deficient (DD) or in addition to population size information
- **Data quality:** G = 'Good' (e.g. based on surveys); M = 'Moderate' (e.g. based on partial data with some extrapolation); P = 'Poor' (e.g. rough estimation); VP = 'Very poor' (use this category only, if not even a rough estimation of the population size can be made, in this case the fields for population size can remain empty, but the field "Abundance categories" has to be filled in)

4. SITE DESCRIPTION

4.1 General site character

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Habitat class	% Cover
N03	4.5
N07	3.8
N14	2.0
N16	10.1
N02	26.8
N08	3.4
N23	2.1
N06	37.9
N09	8.0
N10	1.4
Total Habitat Cover	99.99999999999999

Other Site Characteristics

1 Terrestrial: Soil &
 Geology: alluvium,mud,nutrient-rich,limestone,basic,neutral,shingle,sandstone,acidic,peat,clay,nutrient-poor,sea
 Terrestrial: Geomorphology and landscape: valley,floodplain,coastal,lowland,upland,island 3 Marine:
 Geology: mud 4 Marine: Geomorphology: estuary

4.2 Quality and importance

Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. Petromyzon marinus for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Lampetra fluviatilis for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Lampetra planeri for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Alosa alosa for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. Alosa fallax for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Salmo salar for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Cottus gobio for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Lutra lutra for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.

4.3 Threats, pressures and activities with impacts on the site

The most important impacts and activities with high effect on the site

Negative Impacts			
Rank	Threats and pressures [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	I01		B
H	A04		I
L	B07		B
H	H01		B
L	H05		O
H	J02		I
M	B02		B
M	J03		I

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	J03		I

Rank: H = high, M = medium, L = low

Pollution: N = Nitrogen input, P = Phosphor/Phosphate input, A = Acid input/acidification, T = toxic inorganic chemicals, O = toxic organic chemicals, X = Mixed pollutions

i = inside, o = outside, b = both

4.5 Documentation

The Natural Resources Wales weblink below provides access to information on its designated sites. Detailed information about this Natura 2000 site can be accessed via the Management Plan link provided in Section 6.2. See also the 'UK Approach' document for more information (link via the JNCC website).

Link(s): <https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/environmental-topics/wildlife-and-biodiversity/protected-areas-of-land>
http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/Natura2000_StandardDataForm_UKApproach_Dec2015.pdf

5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

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5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]
UK04	100.0				

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

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6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the site management:

Organisation:	Natural Resources Wales
Address:	
Email:	

6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

☒ Yes	Name: RIVER USK / AFON WYSG Link: https://www.naturalresources.wales/media/673384/River_Usk%20SAC%20core%20plan.pdf
☐ No, but in preparation	
☐ No	

EXPLANATION OF CODES USED IN THE SPECIAL AREA OF CONSERVATION (SAC) AND SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA (SPA) STANDARD DATA FORMS

The codes in the table below generally follow those explained in the [official European Union guidelines for the Standard Data Form](#) (also referencing the relevant page number).

1.1 Site type

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	SPA (classified Special Protection Area)	53
B	cSAC, SCI or SAC (candidate Special Area of Conservation, Site of Community Importance, designated Special Area of Conservation)	53
C	SPA area/boundary is the same as the cSAC/SCI/SAC i.e. a co-classified/designated site (Note: this situation only occurs in Gibraltar)	53

3.1 Habitat code

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	57
1130	Estuaries	57
1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	57
1150	Coastal lagoons	57
1160	Large shallow inlets and bays	57
1170	Reefs	57
1180	Submarine structures made by leaking gases	57
1210	Annual vegetation of drift lines	57
1220	Perennial vegetation of stony banks	57
1230	Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts	57
1310	Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	57
1320	Spartina swards (Spartinion maritimae)	57
1330	Atlantic salt meadows (Glaucio-Puccinellietalia maritimae)	57
1340	Inland salt meadows	57
1420	Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (Sarcocornetea fruticosi)	57
2110	Embryonic shifting dunes	57
2120	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria ("white dunes")	57
2130	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes")	57
2140	Decalcified fixed dunes with Empetrum nigrum	57
2150	Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea)	57
2160	Dunes with Hippophya• rhamnoides	57
2170	Dunes with Salix repens ssp. argentea (Salicion arenariae)	57
2190	Humid dune slacks	57
21A0	Machairs (* in Ireland)	57
2250	Coastal dunes with Juniperus spp.	57
2330	Inland dunes with open Corynephorus and Agrostis grasslands	57
3110	Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae)	57
3130	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea	57
3140	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp.	57
3150	Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation	57

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
3160	Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds	57
3170	Mediterranean temporary ponds	57
3180	Turloughs	57
3260	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation	57
4010	Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	57
4020	Temperate Atlantic wet heaths with Erica ciliaris and Erica tetralix	57
4030	European dry heaths	57
4040	Dry Atlantic coastal heaths with Erica vagans	57
4060	Alpine and Boreal heaths	57
4080	Sub-Arctic Salix spp. scrub	57
5110	Stable xerothermophilous formations with Buxus sempervirens on rock slopes (Berberidion p.p.)	57
5130	Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands	57
6130	Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae	57
6150	Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands	57
6170	Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands	57
6210	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites)	57
6230	Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on silicious substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in Continental Europe)	57
6410	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	57
6430	Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	57
6510	Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis)	57
6520	Mountain hay meadows	57
7110	Active raised bogs	57
7120	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	57
7130	Blanket bogs (* if active bog)	57
7140	Transition mires and quaking bogs	57
7150	Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	57
7210	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae	57
7220	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	57
7230	Alkaline fens	57
7240	Alpine pioneer formations of the Caricion bicoloris-atrofuscae	57
8110	Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani)	57
8120	Calcareous and calcshist scree of the montane to alpine levels (Thlaspietalia rotundifoliae)	57
8210	Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	57
8220	Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	57
8240	Limestone pavements	57
8310	Caves not open to the public	57
8330	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	57
9120	Atlantic acidophilous beech forests with Ilex and sometimes also Taxus in the shrublayer (Quercion robur-petraeae or Ilici-Fagenion)	57
9130	Asperulo-Fagetum beech forests	57
9160	Sub-Atlantic and medio-European oak or oak-hornbeam forests of the Carpinion betuli	57
9180	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, scree and ravines	57
9190	Old acidophilous oak woods with Quercus robur on sandy plains	57
91A0	Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles	57
91C0	Caledonian forest	57
91D0	Bog woodland	57
91E0	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	57
91J0	Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles	57

3.1 Habitat representativity (abbreviated to 'Representativity' in data form)

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	Excellent representativity	57
B	Good representativity	57
C	Significant representativity	57
D	Non-significant presence representativity	57

3.1 Relative surface

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	> 15%-100%	58
B	> 2%-15%	58
C	≤ 2%	58

3.1 Degree of conservation (abbreviated to 'Conservation' in data form)

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	Excellent conservation	59
B	Good conservation	59
C	Average or reduced conservation	59

3.1 Global assessment (abbreviated to 'Global' in data form)

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	Excellent value	59
B	Good value	59
C	Significant value	59

3.2 Population (abbreviated to 'Pop.' in data form)

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	> 15%-100%	62
B	> 2%-15%	62
C	≤ 2%	62
D	Non-significant population	62

3.2 Degree of conservation (abbreviated to 'Con.' in data form)

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	Excellent conservation	63
B	Good conservation	63
C	Average or reduced conservation	63

3.2 Isolation (abbreviated to 'Iso.' in data form)

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	Population (almost) Isolated	63
B	Population not-isolated, but on margins of area of distribution	63
C	Population not-isolated within extended distribution range	63

3.2 Global Grade (abbreviated to 'Glo.' or 'G.' in data form)

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A	Excellent value	63
B	Good value	63
C	Significant value	63

3.3 Other species – essentially covers bird assemblage types

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
WATR	Non-breeding waterbird assemblage	UK specific code
SBA	Breeding seabird assemblage	UK specific code

BBA	Breeding bird assemblage (applies only to sites classified pre 2000)	UK specific code
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4.1 Habitat class code

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
N01	Marine areas, Sea inlets	65
N02	Tidal rivers, Estuaries, Mud flats, Sand flats, Lagoons (including saltwork basins)	65
N03	Salt marshes, Salt pastures, Salt steppes	65
N04	Coastal sand dunes, Sand beaches, Machair	65
N05	Shingle, Sea cliffs, Islets	65
N06	Inland water bodies (Standing water, Running water)	65
N07	Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens	65
N08	Heath, Scrub, Maquis and Garrigue, Phygrana	65
N09	Dry grassland, Steppes	65
N10	Humid grassland, Mesophile grassland	65
N11	Alpine and sub-Alpine grassland	65
N14	Improved grassland	65
N15	Other arable land	65
N16	Broad-leaved deciduous woodland	65
N17	Coniferous woodland	65
N19	Mixed woodland	65
N21	Non-forest areas cultivated with woody plants (including Orchards, groves, Vineyards, Dehesas)	65
N22	Inland rocks, Screes, Sands, Permanent Snow and ice	65
N23	Other land (including Towns, Villages, Roads, Waste places, Mines, Industrial sites)	65
N25	Grassland and scrub habitats (general)	65
N26	Woodland habitats (general)	65

4.3 Threats code

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
A01	Cultivation	65
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	65
A03	Mowing / cutting of grassland	65
A04	Grazing	65
A05	Livestock farming and animal breeding (without grazing)	65
A06	Annual and perennial non-timber crops	65
A07	Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals	65
A08	Fertilisation	65
A10	Restructuring agricultural land holding	65
A11	Agriculture activities not referred to above	65
B01	Forest planting on open ground	65
B02	Forest and Plantation management & use	65
B03	Forest exploitation without replanting or natural regrowth	65
B04	Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals (forestry)	65
B06	Grazing in forests/ woodland	65
B07	Forestry activities not referred to above	65
C01	Mining and quarrying	65
C02	Exploration and extraction of oil or gas	65
C03	Renewable abiotic energy use	65
D01	Roads, paths and railroads	65
D02	Utility and service lines	65
D03	Shipping lanes, ports, marine constructions	65
D04	Airports, flightpaths	65
D05	Improved access to site	65
E01	Urbanised areas, human habitation	65
E02	Industrial or commercial areas	65

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
E03	Discharges	65
E04	Structures, buildings in the landscape	65
E06	Other urbanisation, industrial and similar activities	65
F01	Marine and Freshwater Aquaculture	65
F02	Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	65
F03	Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), including damage caused by game (excessive density), and taking/removal of terrestrial animals (including collection of insects, reptiles, amphibians, birds of prey, etc., trapping, poisoning, poaching, predator control, accidental capture (e.g. due to fishing gear), etc.)	65
F04	Taking / Removal of terrestrial plants, general	65
F05	Illegal taking/ removal of marine fauna	65
F06	Hunting, fishing or collecting activities not referred to above	65
G01	Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities	65
G02	Sport and leisure structures	65
G03	Interpretative centres	65
G04	Military use and civil unrest	65
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	65
H01	Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish)	65
H02	Pollution to groundwater (point sources and diffuse sources)	65
H03	Marine water pollution	65
H04	Air pollution, air-borne pollutants	65
H05	Soil pollution and solid waste (excluding discharges)	65
H06	Excess energy	65
H07	Other forms of pollution	65
I01	Invasive non-native species	65
I02	Problematic native species	65
I03	Introduced genetic material, GMO	65
J01	Fire and fire suppression	65
J02	Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions	65
J03	Other ecosystem modifications	65
K01	Abiotic (slow) natural processes	65
K02	Biocenotic evolution, succession	65
K03	Interspecific faunal relations	65
K04	Interspecific floral relations	65
K05	Reduced fecundity/ genetic depression	65
L05	Collapse of terrain, landslide	65
L07	Storm, cyclone	65
L08	Inundation (natural processes)	65
L10	Other natural catastrophes	65
M01	Changes in abiotic conditions	65
M02	Changes in biotic conditions	65
U	Unknown threat or pressure	65
XO	Threats and pressures from outside the Member State	65

5.1 Designation type codes

CODE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO
UK00	No Protection Status	67
UK01	National Nature Reserve	67
UK04	Site of Special Scientific Interest (GB)	67
UK05	Marine Conservation Zone	67
UK06	Nature Conservation Marine Protected Area	67
UK86	Special Area (Channel Islands)	67
UK98	Area of Special Scientific Interest (NI)	67
IN00	Ramsar Convention site	67
IN08	Special Protection Area	67
IN09	Special Area of Conservation	67