

Welsh Language Action Plan

Ystalyfera Commercial Development

W Griffiths Architects

Neath Port Talbot County Council



Location:

Swansea Valley Business Park,
Glanyrafan Roundabout,
Ystalyfera
SA9 2EB

Proposed Development:

Development of Swansea Business Park - proposed rental units for business and industrial use.

Agent:

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Date:

08/04/2021



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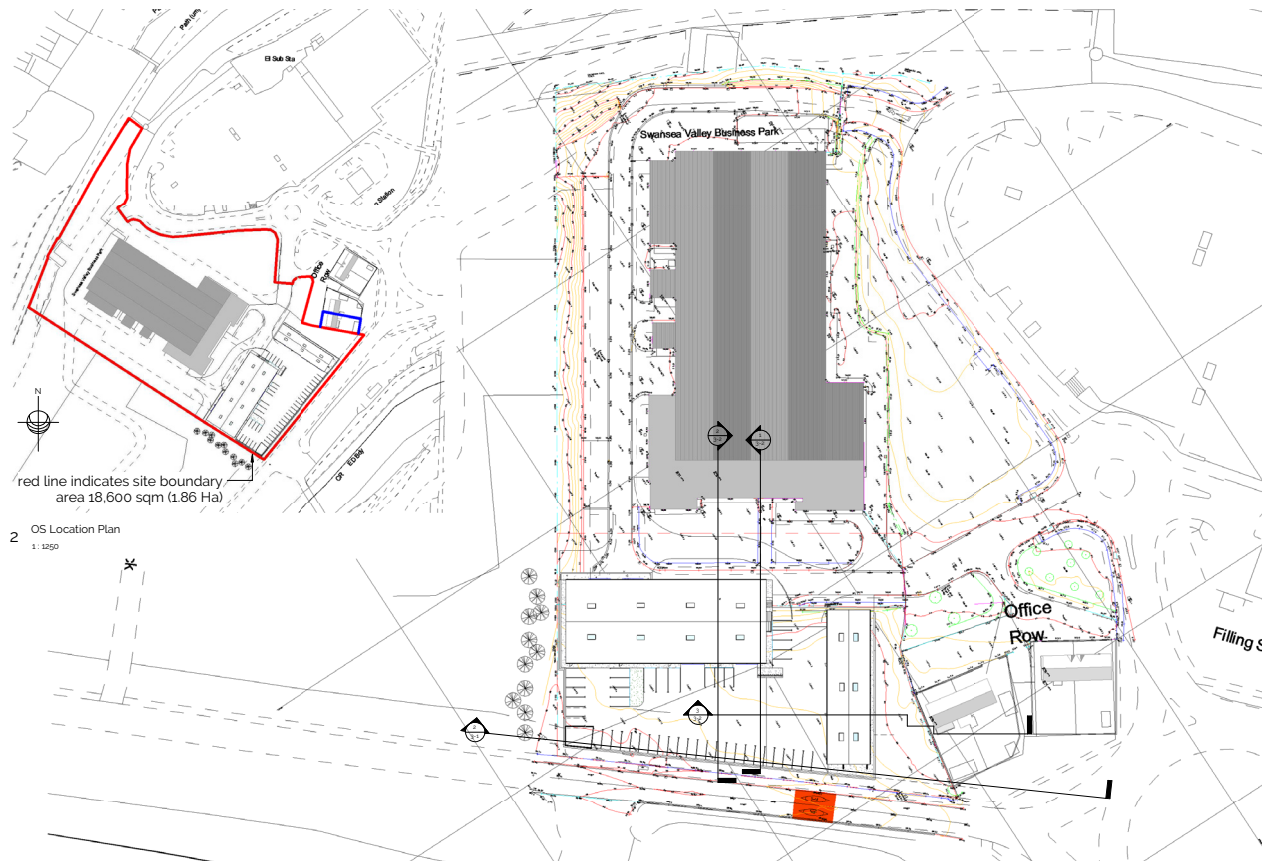


1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This Welsh Language Action Plan has been prepared on behalf of Swansea Valley Business Park, Ystalyfera, This report establishes whether the proposed development would have any impact on the Welsh Language, particularly in relation the local community and the steps taken to mitigate the development.

1.2 This assessment has been prepared as required to by Policies SP22 and WL1 of Neath Port Talbot's Local Development Plan. Policy SP22 (Welsh Language) requires the Welsh Language to be safeguarded and promoted in the language sensitive area of Ystalyfera and Policy WL1 (Development in Language Sensitive Areas) requires proposals in language sensitive areas to submit a Language Action Plan to protect, promote and enhance the Welsh Language. Reference have also been made in accordance with the SPG.

2.0 SITE CONTEXT AND PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT



2.1 LOCATION: YSTALYFERA

Ystalyfera is a former industrial village and community in the upper Swansea Valley, on the River Tawe, about 13 miles northeast of Swansea. It is an electoral ward and a community in the unitary authority of Neath Port Talbot, Wales, comprising a resident population of just over 3,000 people, approximately 60% of whom speak Welsh.

2.2 WIDER CONTEXT

Ystalyfera has a Welsh language comprehensive school. Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera is renowned for having consistently good examination results. This school reflects the high proportion of Welsh speakers in the area.

Ystalyfera is home to Ystalyfera RFC – a rugby union club, which is an integral part of the village – and a cricket team.

2.3 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Development of Swansea Business Park - proposed rental units for business and industrial use.



There will be a total of 7 units available.

BLOCK A Areas :

GF Units 1-4 : 242m²

FF Units 1-4 : 242m²

Totals :

GF - 968m²

FF - 968m²

BLOCK B Areas :

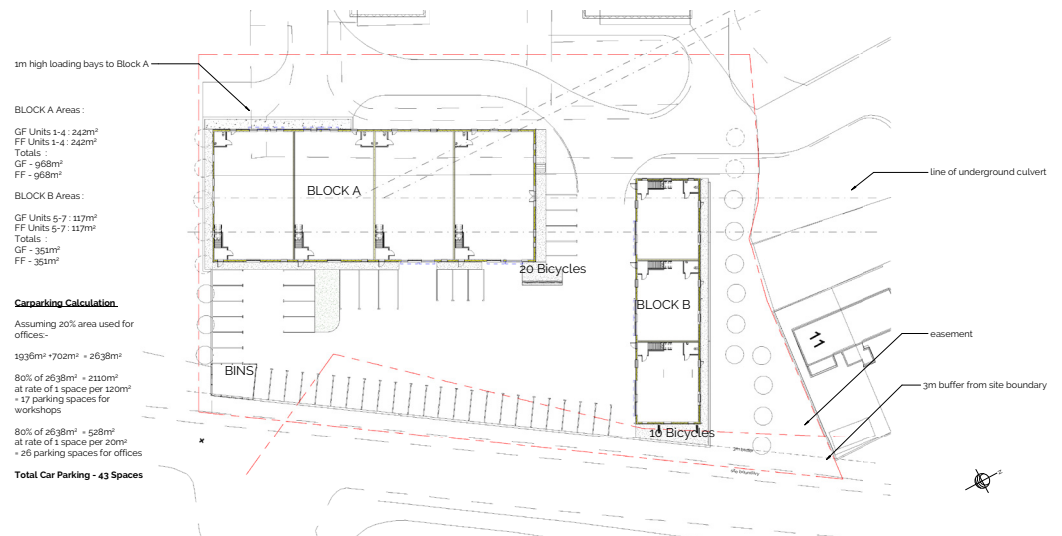
GF Units 5-7 : 117m²

FF Units 5-7 : 117m²

Totals :

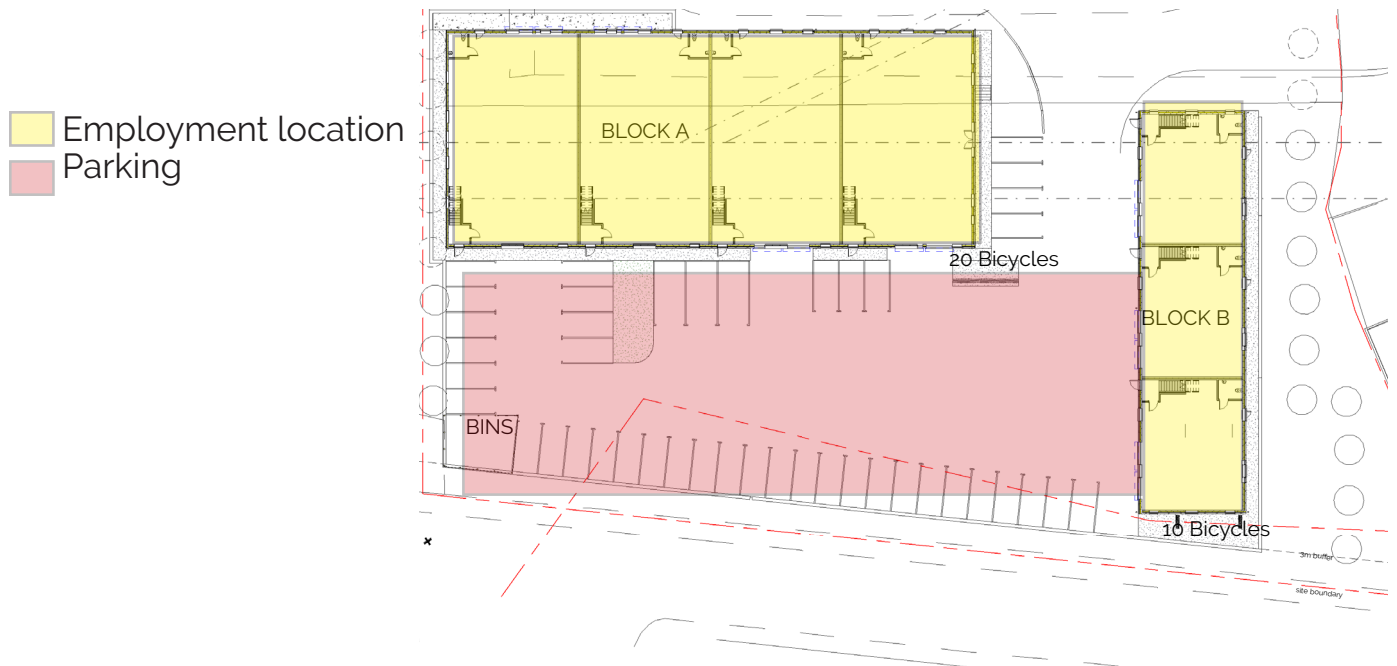
GF - 351m²

FF - 351m²



Use class will be: E

Each unit will accommodate a variety of businesses, given their generous sizing, could potentially provide 15 jobs per unit depending on type of business.



3.0 CENSUS INFORMATION

3.1 Almost half of Ystalyferas population 45.9979% can speak Welsh according to the census information below, 64.9948% of the Welsh speakers are between 16- 64.

Welsh Language Profile (KS208WA)	
Scope: All usual residents aged 3 and over	
This Welsh language profile classifies usual residents aged 3 and over by Welsh language skills, for Wales as at census day, 27 March 2011. People with skills in Welsh are further categorised by key age groups.	
All categories: Age 3 and over	2911
Age 3 to 15	463
Age 16 to 64	1892
Age 65 and over	556
Can understand spoken Welsh only	415
Can speak Welsh	1339
Can speak, read and write Welsh	899
All categories: Can speak Welsh by age 3 and over	1339
Can speak Welsh: Age 3 to 15	302
Can speak Welsh: Age 16 to 64	696
Can speak Welsh: Age 65 and over	341
All categories: One or more skills in Welsh age 3 and over	1825
One or more skills in Welsh: Age 3 to 15	344
One or more skills in Welsh: Age 16 to 64	1071
One or more skills in Welsh: Age 65 and over	410
Age 3 to 15	15.9052%
Age 16 to 64	64.9948%
Age 65 and over	19.1%
Can understand spoken Welsh only	14.2563%
Can speak Welsh	45.9979%
Can speak, read and write Welsh	30.8829%
Can speak Welsh: Age 3 to 15	10.3744%
Can speak Welsh: Age 16 to 64	23.9093%
Can speak Welsh: Age 65 and over	11.7142%
One or more skills in Welsh: Age 3 to 15	11.8172%
One or more skills in Welsh: Age 16 to 64	36.7915%
One or more skills in Welsh: Age 65 and over	14.0845%

Ystalyfera, Welsh Language Profile (KS208WA) <<http://ukcensusdata.com/ystalyfera-w05000592#sthash.tXZmMJmb.dpbs>>

Welsh Language Skills (QS206WA)	
Scope: All usual residents aged 3 and over	
This table provides information about the Welsh language skills of usual residents aged 3 and over, for Wales as at census day, 27 March 2011.	
All usual residents aged 3 and over	2911
Can understand spoken Welsh	1641
Can speak Welsh	1339
Can read Welsh	1118
Can write Welsh	929
Can speak, read or write Welsh	1410

Ystalyfera, Welsh Language Skills (QS206WA) <<http://ukcensusdata.com/ystalyfera-w05000592#sthash.tXZmMJmb.dpbs>>

3.2 As the chart above shows that 1339 people within Ystalyfera can speak Welsh and 1410 can speak, read and write Welsh.

Welsh Language Skills (Detailed) (QS207WA)



Scope: All usual residents

This table provides detailed information about the Welsh language skills of usual residents, for Wales as at census day, 27 March 2011.

All categories: Welsh language skills	3019
No skills in Welsh	1164
Can understand spoken Welsh only	438
Can speak Welsh: Total	1346
Can speak but cannot read or write Welsh	287
Can speak and read but cannot write Welsh	154
Can speak, read and write Welsh	900
Can speak and other combinations of skills in Welsh	5
Can read but cannot speak or write Welsh	46
Can read and write but cannot speak Welsh	19
Can write but cannot speak or read Welsh	6

Ystalyfera, Welsh Language Skills (Detailed) (QS207WA) <<http://ukcensusdata.com/ystalyfera-w05000592#sthash.tXZmMJmb.dpbs>>

3.3 3019 of Ystalyferas population fit under All categories: Welsh language skills with only 1164 representing no skills in Welsh and 1346 able to speak Welsh.

4.0 LOCAL GROUPS

4.1 Local groups and organisations that operate locally through the medium of Welsh, they are:

- Menter Iaith NPT;
- Merched Y Wawr;
- Ty'r Gwrhyd (Welsh language centre);
- Yr Urdd.

4.2 Menter Iaith aim to promote the Welsh language within communities through:

- Regenerating the Welsh language by regenerating our communities
- Raising Welsh speakers' and learners' confidence to use the language as part of their everyday lives
- Working in partnership to integrate the Welsh language into every aspect of life
- Creating and supporting Welsh-medium work opportunities
- Sharing and promoting the value of the Welsh language with families, children and young people
- Supporting Mentrau Iaith Cymru and each other's work

Promoting the use of Welsh <<http://www.mentrauiath.cymru/hyrwyddor-gymraeg/?lang=en>>

4.3 Engagment has been made with Menter Iaith, a conversation was held with Janet Francis on the 7th of April, who is the Menter shop keeper who supported the idea of a Welsh language induction to new leaseholder. She advised we email Tomos (who is the new head of menter) to which we await a response to.

Subject: Menter Iaith inquiry
From: Ellie <ellie@wgriffiths.co.uk>
Date: 07/04/2021, 17:44
To: siop@siopdytawe.co.uk, tomos@menterabertawe.org.uk, Chris Griffiths <chris@wgriffiths.co.uk>

Thank you Jannet for speaking with me earlier.

I'm emailing to inquire what services Menter Iaith provide. We are developing business units in Ystalyfera and would like your thoughts on the provision of a Welsh language induction to new lease holders and if this is a service you would be able to provide or whether there are other services you provide to promote Welsh to new commercial tenants or whether there are other NPT organisations providing such services?

I look forward to hearing back from you.

Thank you very much.

Kind Regards

Ellie John



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www.wgriffiths.co.uk

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4.5 Engagement was also made with Merched Y Wawr, who are based in Swansea who expressed potential interest in using a unit for their rehearsals. Engagement was made with Geraint Morgan on the 8th of April.

5.0 MITIGATION MEASURES

5.1 Welsh Language Service Delivery training and Welsh Language Awareness training

These training days will be offered at the development site within a unit, and will be offered to new leaseholders. The training will be delivered via an approved Welsh speaking trainer and will be seen as a form of induction day.

5.2 The proposal will incorporate bilingual signs as required within the spg as stated within Appendix D, of the mitigated measures .

5.3 Language skills will be one of the criteria to be considered when units are to be leased, ensuring welsh businesses will be supported, as stated within the spg, Appendix D, of the mitigated measures.

5.4 Structures will be in place to offer support to prepare signs, announcements etc, as stated within the spg, Appendix D, of the mitigated measures.

6.0 CONCLUSION

6.1 The main justification for the Development in Welsh Language terms is that it provides local employment in a welsh speaking area which can only be a benefit in supporting the use of welsh.

6.2 Supporting the business development will support the future of Ystalyferas Welsh speaking citizens, providing opportunity to be able to see, hear and use the Welsh language as part of a daily lifestyle. The development encourages and supports a bilingual Wales, developing within the heart of a highly populated Welsh speaking area to encourage growth and a healthy lifestyle.

6.3 The development provides an opportunity for employment which supports the local economy, beginning to mitigate the effects of covid 19. The business development will support local companies and start up ventures/ businesses through providing facilities to thrive and provide employment to the local community, beginning to boost the local economy.

6.4 The proposal will incorporate bilingual signs as required within the spg as stated within Appendix D, of the mitigated measures .

6.5 Language skills will be considered when units are to be leased, ensuring welsh businesses will be supported, as stated within the spg, Appendix D, of the mitigated measures.

6.6 Structures will be in place to offer support to prepare signs, announcements etc, as stated within the spg, Appendix D, of the mitigated measures.