

Application for Hedgerow Removal Notice

The Environment Act 1995; The Hedgerows Regulations 1997

Publication of applications on planning authority websites

Please note that the information provided on this application form and in supporting documents may be published on the Authority's website. If you require any further clarification, please contact the Authority's planning department.

Site Details

If you cannot provide a postcode, the description of site location must be completed. Please provide the most accurate site description you can, to help locate the site - for example "field to the North of the Post Office".

Number

Suffix

Property Name

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Town/city

Postcode

Description of site location (must be completed if postcode is not known)

Easting (x)

Northing (y)

Description

RSK Environment, working with Laing O'Rourke on behalf of National Grid, hereby submit a Hedgerow Removal Notice in respect of a section of hedgerow located adjacent to Heol Cae'r Bont, Margam, Port Talbot, within the Neath Port Talbot County Borough. The hedgerow runs along the northern side of Heol Cae'r Bont in an area characterised by a mixture of industrial, infrastructure and semi natural habitats associated with the wider Margam and Port Talbot industrial complex.

To the south of the hedgerow lies Heol Cae'r Bont and Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir, whilst to the north are areas of scrub vegetation, drainage features and operational industrial land associated with the British Oxygen Company (BOC) facility and surrounding infrastructure. A wooded area is located to the north east of the site, beyond which are further industrial and energy related facilities.

The hedgerow forms a linear landscape feature alongside the road corridor, the road of which leads to a railway crossing point. The existing hedgerow that has been assessed is approximately 135 metres in length and is predominantly composed of hawthorn, blackthorn and rose species, with associated banks and drainage ditches present along much of its length.

The surrounding landscape reflects the historic and current industrial development of the Margam Moors area, with a combination of transport infrastructure, industrial operations, managed vegetation and semi natural habitat features present throughout the wider setting.

Applicant Details

Name/Company

Title

Miss

First name

Gemma

Surname

Williams

Company Name

RSK Environment

Address

Address line 1

Spring Lodge

Address line 2

Chester Road

Address line 3

Helsby

Town/City

Cheshire

Country

United Kingdom

Postcode

WA6 0AR

Are you an agent acting on behalf of the applicant?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Applicant Contact Details

Primary number

***** REDACTED *****

Secondary number

***** REDACTED *****

Email address

***** REDACTED *****

Agent Details

Name/Company

Title

Mr

First name

Rhodri

Surname

Davies

Company Name

Laing O'Rourke

Address

Address line 1

Bridge Place 1 & 2

Address line 2

Anchor Boulevard

Address line 3

Crossways

Town/City

Dartford

Country

Kent

Postcode

DA2 6SN

Contact Details

Primary number

***** REDACTED *****

Secondary number

***** REDACTED *****

Email address

***** REDACTED *****

Hedgerow Removal Notice

Please state the reasons for the proposed removal of hedgerow(s)

The proposed removal of approximately 40 metres of hedgerow is required to facilitate the creation of a temporary construction access from Heol Cae'r Bont, within the fields encorporated by the BOC facility in connection with the installation of an underground cable route, in association with the Margam Substation upgrade, that is taking place to provide power to the Tata Steel Electric Arc Furnace development.

The extent of hedgerow removal has been limited to the minimum length necessary to safely undertake the works and provide access for construction vehicles and equipment. Upon completion of the works, the temporary access will be removed and the affected section of hedgerow will be reinstated using a native mixed species planting scheme comprising species consistent with the existing hedgerow and surrounding landscape.

Supporting ecological and archaeological/historical assessments have been undertaken in accordance with the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 and conclude that the hedgerow does not meet the criteria for classification as an "important hedgerow".

Please state the reference number of the plan(s) showing the stretch(es) of hedgerow(s) to be removed

- Plan Reference - HRN-001 – Heol Cae'r Bont Hedgerow Removal Notice – Location and Removal Extent Plans.
- Margam Substation Hedgerows Regulations Assessment (RSK Biocensus, May 2026)
- Heol Cae'r Bont, Port Talbot Archaeological and Historical Hedgerow Assessment (Headland Archaeology, May 2026).
- RSK Environment - Statement for Hedgerow Removal Notice – Heol Cae'r Bont, Margam, Port Talbot

Please confirm the length of the hedgerows to be removed

Length

40.00

metres

Is the hedgerow to be removed less than 30 years old?

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

What best describes your circumstances?

- ☐ I am/we are the owner(s) of the freehold of the land concerned
☐ I am/we are the tenant(s) of agricultural holding concerned
☐ I am/we are the tenant(s) under the farm business tenancy concerned
☒ I am/act for the utility operator concerned

Site Visit

Can the site be seen from a public road, public footpath, bridleway or other public land?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

If the planning authority needs to make an appointment to carry out a site visit, whom should they contact? (Please select only one)

- ☐ The agent
- ☒ The applicant
- ☐ Other person

Pre-application Advice

Has pre-application advice been sought from the local planning authority about this application?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

If Yes, please complete the following information about the advice you were given (this will help the authority to deal with this application more efficiently):

Officer name:

Title

First Name

Surname

***** REDACTED *****

Reference

Date (must be pre-application submission)

10/05/2026

Details of the pre-application advice received

Pre-application discussions have been undertaken with National Grid, as the client for the wider project, and with officers of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council in relation to the proposed works and the requirement for a Hedgerow Removal Notice.

As a result of these discussions, specialist ecological and archaeological/historical assessments were commissioned to establish whether the hedgerow meets the criteria for classification as an "important hedgerow" under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997. This included an ecological assessment and an archaeological and historical assessment undertaken in accordance with relevant guidance and informed by Historic Environment Record data obtained through HENEB.

The findings of these assessments accompany this application and demonstrate that the hedgerow does not meet the criteria for classification as an "important hedgerow" under either the Wildlife and Landscape or the Archaeology and History provisions of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997.

The discussions also considered the scope of the proposed works, which have been limited to the temporary removal of approximately 40 metres of hedgerow to facilitate construction access. Following completion of the works, the temporary access will be removed and the affected section of hedgerow will be reinstated using a native mixed species planting scheme consistent with the existing hedgerow and surrounding landscape.

Declaration

I/We hereby apply for Hedgerow removal notice as described in the questions answered, details provided, and the accompanying plans/drawings and additional information.
I/We confirm that, to the best of my/our knowledge, any facts stated are true and accurate and any opinions given are the genuine opinions of the person(s) giving them.
I/We also accept that:

- Once submitted, this information will be made available to the Local Planning Authority and, once validated by them, be made available as part of a public register and on the authority's website;
- Our system will automatically generate and send you emails in regard to the submission of this application.

☒ I / We agree to the outlined declaration

Signed

Gemma Williams

Date

08/06/2026