Application No.:	**P2026/0426**	
Site Location:	**Cryddan Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme** **Melyn** **Neath**	
Description:	**Request for Screening opinion under Regulation 6 of the Town and Country Planning (Environment Impact Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2017 for a proposed Flood Alleviation Scheme**	
Date of submission:	**30.06.2026**	
Relevant Regulation:	~~- 1999 Regs submitted between 1999 and the 29 Feb 2016~~ ~~- 2016 Regs submitted on or between 1 March 2016 and 15 May 2017.~~ - 2017 Regs. Submitted on or after 16 May 2017.	
Schedule 1.		
Is the project Schedule 1 Development?	~~Yes, if so which description of development? EIA is Required.~~	**NO**
Does the project change or extend development described in schedule 1?	~~If yes, would the project may have significant adverse effects on the environment? If so describe:~~	**NO**
Schedule 2.		
Is the project listed as a description of development under column 1 of Schedule 2?	**YES** **10(h) Inland-waterway construction not included in Schedule 1, canalisation and flood-relief works**	~~If no proceed.~~
Are the applicable thresholds/criteria in column 2 exceeded/met?	**YES (area of the works exceeds 1 hectare)**	~~If no, proceed.~~
Does the project change or extend development described in column 1 of schedule 2?	~~If yes, would the project may have significant adverse effects on the environment? If so describe:~~	**NO**
Is the Project located wholly or partly within a 'Sensitive area'? Sensitive Areas are: - SSSI. - National Park. - World Heritage Site. - A scheduled Ancient Monument. - ANOB. - A European Site – SAC, CSAC etc.	~~If Yes, screening opinion required.~~	**NO**
Have the Welsh Ministers issued a screening Direction?	~~If Yes, is the direction that the development is EIA Development? If yes, has an EIA been submitted with the application? If direction is that the project is not EIA then no screening required.~~	**NO**
Has an ES been submitted?	~~If Yes proceed to validation.~~	**NO**

Detailed EIA Screening Assessment.

In answering the following questions due regard must be given to the impact of the development taking into account:-

(a) the magnitude and spatial extent of the impact (for example geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);
(b) the nature of the impact;
(c) the transboundary nature of the impact;
(d) the intensity and complexity of the impact;
(e) the probability of the impact;
(f) the expected onset, duration, frequency and reversibility of the impact;
(g) the cumulation of the impact with the impact of other existing and/or approved development;
(h) the possibility of effectively reducing the impact.

Questions to be considered.	**Yes, No, Unknown – provide description.**	**For Yes/Unknown are effects likely to be significant?**
Criterion 1. Character of Development		
Question 1a Size and Design of Development.		
Will the design, Construction, Operation or decommission of the project involve actions which will cause physical changes in the locality (topography, land use, changes in waterbodies etc.)?	Yes. Whilst there would be some physical changes both above and below ground, the works that constitute development involve engineering works associated with managing fluvial flood risk and surface water drainage. The proposed scheme comprises: • Raising existing linear defences at the upstream face of Old Road bridge to prevent overtopping; • Raising existing linear defences at St. Catherine's Close to provide additional channel capacity; • Replacing the existing main culvert at St. Catherine's Close with an upsized culvert and including new debris screens and multiple pipework through a reconstructed concrete weir arrangement; • A new box culvert from St. Catherines'	Significant effects unlikely.

Questions to be considered.	Yes, No, Unknown – provide description.	For Yes/Unknown are effects likely to be significant?
	Close to the railway line; • A new double culvert under the railway line with associated pipework and storage chambers at Milland Road and Neath & Tennant Canal; and • New gravity outfalls to discharge into the River Neath. The vast majority of the proposed works are located above and landward of Mean High Water Springs ('MHWS') however specific elements, particularly the construction and operation of two gravity outfalls into the River Neath, are expected to extend below MHWS and therefore fall within the marine licencing regime. A separate screening request has been submitted to Natura Resources Wales under the Marine EIA Regulations 2007. There will be the need for above ground contractors' compound as well as localised removal of vegetation. On completion of the engineering works the areas along the proposed construction route will be reinstated and landscaping proposals provided to mitigate for the loss of any trees or other soft landscaping. Given the already industrialised nature of the Site and surrounding area, it is predicted that the Proposed Scheme will have only minor impacts on landscape and visual amenity receptors. These impacts are likely to be associated with the proposed	

Questions to be considered.	Yes, No, Unknown – provide description.	For Yes/Unknown are effects likely to be significant?
	construction and excavation activities. The physical changes are therefore considered to be localised in nature and not be likely to result in significant effects in EIA terms.	
Question 1b Cumulation with Other Existing Development and/or Approved Development.		
Are there any other factors which should be considered such as: • Consequential development which could lead to Environment effects? • The Potential for cumulative impacts with other existing approved development or planning activities in the locality? • Any plans for future land uses on or around the location which could be affected by the project? • Transfrontier impact?	No.	N/A
Question 1c Use of Natural Resources, in particular land, soil, water and biodiversity;		
Will construction or operation of the project use natural resources, in particular land, soil, water and biodiversity etc. which are non-renewable or in short supply?	No.	N/A
Question 1d. Production of Waste		
Will the project produce solid wastes during construction or operation or decommissioning?	Yes. The nature of the proposed development means that the following waste is likely to be generated locally: • Excavated soil (if unsuitable for reuse); • Metal/steel; • Concrete, aggregate and cement debris; and • Green waste.	Significant effects unlikely.
Question 1e. Pollution and Nuisances.		

Questions to be considered.	Yes, No, Unknown – provide description.	For Yes/Unknown are effects likely to be significant?
Will the project involve use, storage, transport, handling or production of substances or materials which could be harmful to human health or the environment or raise concerns about actual or perceived risks to human health?	No.	N/A
Will the project cause noise and vibration or release of light, heat energy or electromagnetic radiation?	Yes, some noise and vibration likely during the construction phase, though this would be localised and time limited and in proximity to a number of existing noise sources, e.g. railway line and the A465(T). Any adverse impacts are anticipated to be managed through the implementation of good practices and mitigation measures which will be set out in a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). Given the location of the site and the localised nature of the impacts, it is considered that any effects in terms of noise and vibration would be localised and unlikely to be of a magnitude that would be so significant, such that they would warrant EIA.	Significant effects unlikely.
Will the project release pollutants or any hazardous, toxic or noxious substances to air, or lead to risks of contamination of land or water (including surface waters, groundwater, coastal waters or the sea)?	Yes. The proposed flood alleviation works have the potential to effect the surrounding hydrology with a risk of contaminants being present on the site which could infiltrate surrounding water networks including the Neath & Tennant Canal and River Neath. Adequate provision will need to be made to ensure that the drainage of any adjoining land is not interrupted or otherwise adversely affected	Significant effects unlikely.

Questions to be considered.	Yes, No, Unknown – provide description.	For Yes/Unknown are effects likely to be significant?
	by the development, including providing details of attenuation during intense rainfall events and the effect this has on surrounding land and watercourses. It is considered the changes would be localised in nature and not be likely to result in significant effects in EIA terms, subject to further hydrological surveys and mitigation. Separate consent(s) will also likely be required under section 23 of the Land Drainage Act 1991 and/or Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. Consultation with NRW may be required for in-channel works particularly at the outfall locations to the River Neath and regarding the need for a 'Flood Risk Activity Permit (FRAP)' during construction. In-channel works ideally need to be undertaken outside fish spawning seasons (1st October to 15th June), unless carried out on a dry bed, or under Consent from the Local Authority Ordinary Watercourse consents officer. Short term effects during construction could include the transfer of soil, sediment or other construction materials to drainage channels, or the accidental spillage of oil/fuel or other contaminating liquids which could impact the quality of groundwaters. These impacts would be avoided/ minimised by preparing a Flood Consequence Assessment (FCA) and a Surface Water Drainage Strategy as part of the planning application submission to detail any flood	

Questions to be considered.	Yes, No, Unknown – provide description.	For Yes/Unknown are effects likely to be significant?
	risks associated with the construction works and provide mitigation measures. Flood risks and other impacts on the water environment are anticipated to be managed through the implementation of good practices and mitigation measures set out in the CEMP.	
Question 1f Risk of accidents and/or disasters relevant to the development concerned, including those caused by climate change, in accordance with scientific knowledge.		
Will there be any risk of accidents and/or disasters relevant to the development concerned, including those caused by climate change, in accordance with scientific knowledge during construction or operation of the project?	Yes. The Site is located within a High Risk Coal Area and in an area of known incidences of flooding, therefore there is a risk of accident due to man-made activities and including climate change. A Coal Mining Risk Assessment and Flood Consequences Assessment will need to accompany any planning application so that these risks are identified and, where necessary, mitigated. However it is considered that any effects would be localised and unlikely to be of a magnitude that would be so significant, such that they would warrant EIA.	Significant effects unlikely.
Question 1g Risks to human health (for example due to water contamination or air pollution)?		
Are there risks to human health for example due to water contamination or air pollution?	Yes. There are no residential dwellings, community land or community assets located within the Site. There are approximately 200 residential properties located along the north-east boundary of the Site and about 100 residential properties along the south-east boundary of the Site.	Significant effects unlikely.

Questions to be considered.	Yes, No, Unknown – provide description.	For Yes/Unknown are effects likely to be significant?
	There is some small risk in terms of health and safety, air quality and noise/vibration during the construction phase but given the scale and nature of the works this impact is likely to be temporary in nature and can be appropriately managed through CEMP mitigation measures. The proposed development is expected to deliver a long-term positive impact on nearby occupiers by reducing flood-risk to properties.	
Criterion 2 Location of development.		
Question 2a Existing and approved land use.		
Will the project result in social changes for example, in demography, traditional lifestyles employment?	No.	N/A
Are there any routes or facilities or approved facilities on or around the location, which are used by the public for access to recreation or other facilities, which could be affected by the project?	Yes. Visual impacts during the construction phase would mostly be limited to residents along the eastern boundary of the Site and the users of a Byway Open to All Traffic ('BOAT') NP|42|7/1 along Foundry Road and National Cycle Network ('NCN') Route 47 identified within the Site. However, these will be temporary and seen in the context of the existing urban developments.	Significant effects unlikely.
Are there any transport routes or approved routes which are susceptible to congestion or which cause environmental problems, which could be affected by the project?	Yes. During construction, there will be temporary access restrictions and an increased volume of traffic and plant on local roads as a result of delivering personnel, materials and plant to site. Access for construction traffic to the	Significant effects unlikely.

Questions to be considered.	Yes, No, Unknown – provide description.	For Yes/Unknown are effects likely to be significant?
	works will be from the local highway network including the A474 and the B4434. Construction traffic will also use Old Road. Adequate provision will need to be made to demonstrate how the materials/waste/spoils would be transported to and from the sites including a daily profile of vehicle movements confirming that vehicle movements are not unnecessarily concentrated on peak traffic hours (08.00-09.00hrs and 17.00-18.00hrs). The proposed traffic assessments should also cover the sections of 'A' roads that are likely to be directly or indirectly affected. There may be a requirement for a temporary access restriction of the BOAT NP|42|7/1 and NCN Route 47 during the construction period.Any adverse impacts will be mitigated via the implementation of an approved Construction Traffic Management Plan ('CTMP'). However it is considered that any effects in terms of transport would be localised and unlikely to be of a magnitude that would be so significant, such that they would warrant EIA.	
Is the project located in a previously undeveloped area where there will be loss of greenfield land?	No.	N/A
Are there any areas on or around the location occupied by land uses or approved land uses which could be affected by the project, particularly sensitive land uses e.g. hospitals, schools, places of worship, community facilities?	No.	N/A

Questions to be considered.	Yes, No, Unknown – provide description.	For Yes/Unknown are effects likely to be significant?
Question 2b Relative Abundance, Availability, Quality and Regenerative Capacity of Natural Resources (including soil, land, water and biodiversity) in the area and its underground;		
Are there any areas on or around the location which contain important, high quality or scarce resources e.g. groundwater, surface waters, forestry, agriculture, fisheries, tourism, minerals, soil, land, water and biodiversity, which could be affected by the project?	Yes. There are a number of designated areas within close proximity. Whilst there would be physical changes to surrounding hydrology and ecology, it is considered that any changes would be localised in nature and not be likely to result in significant effects in EIA terms, subject to further hydrological and ecological surveys and appropriate mitigation.	Significant effects unlikely.
Question 2c Absorption Capacity of the Natural Environment		
Are there any other areas on or around the location which are important or sensitive for reasons of their ecology, or are used by protected, important or sensitive species of fauna or floras which could be affected by the project?	Yes. A detailed ecological assessment and associated follow-up, species specific surveys have been carried out, with appropriate mitigation and net benefit (enhancement) proposed. Cryddan Brook flows through Eaglebush Valley Local Nature Reserve ('LNR') at the southeastern end of the Site. Pollution prevention measures set out in the CEMP would be followed to ensure prevention of any significant effects on Eaglesbush Valley LNR and the four non-statutory Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation ('SINCs') located within or adjacent to the Site. There is potential for habitat removal (loss of grassland/scrub) which might give rise to adverse effects on protected species identified at the Site and the Survey Area. Constructions of the gravity outfalls into the River Neath which fall below MHWS along with the constructions within the canal can also cause disturbances to the aquatic	Significant effects unlikely.

Questions to be considered.	Yes, No, Unknown – provide description.	For Yes/Unknown are effects likely to be significant?
	species identified due to disruption of their pathway, pollution or even death / injury during the works. However the impacts are anticipated to be highly localised to the construction activities at the Neath Canal. Based on the recommendations set out in Phase 1 Habitat Survey reports, any direct (mortality and damage to/loss of habitat) or indirect (vibration, light or noise disturbance) impacts on protected species would be avoided/ minimised through appropriate mitigation. An Ecological Impact Assessment report and Method Statement will accompany the planning application. Therefore the likely ecological effects are not considered to be of such a magnitude that would be so significant, such that they would warrant EIA.	
Are there any inland, coastal, marine, river mouths, riparian area or underground waters on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	Yes. The proposed works are designed to provide additional capacity in the drainage system to alleviate fluvial and surface water flooding with associated alterations to outfall, which, ultimately, is the River Neath. However the effects are considered unlikely to be of such a magnitude that would be so significant, such that they would warrant EIA.	Significant effects unlikely.
Are there any areas or feature of high landscape or scenic value on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	No.	N/A
Is the project in a location where it is likely to be highly visible to many people?	No.	N/A

Questions to be considered.	Yes, No, Unknown – provide description.	For Yes/Unknown are effects likely to be significant?
Are there any areas on or around the location which are densely populated or built-up, which could be affected by the project?	Yes. The proposed works are designed to provide additional capacity in the drainage system to alleviate fluvial flood risk from Cryddan Brook to existing properties on St. Catherine's Close, A474 Briton Ferry Road and Milland Road. The implementation of the improved culvert system is intended to reduce the frequency and severity of flooding in the area.	Significant effects unlikely.
Are there any areas, landscapes, sites or features of historic, archaeological or cultural importance or significance on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	Yes. There are two listed buildings - a Grade II* listed 'St Catherine's Church' and a Grade II listed 'Milepost' – located within 500m of the Site. These historic assets will not be physically impacted during the construction phase, but there is potential for construction activities to visually impact on the settings of these historic assets. There are three non-designated historic assets – Neath to Coelbren Roman Road, Neath Canal and Neath Branch Line Railway – located within the Site which are likely to experience physical impacts during construction. The three assets are linear features and would experience partial truncation, confined to the elements that are within the Site boundary. Any construction activities which require breaking ground within the Site also have the potential to lead to the truncation and removal of archaeological remains despite the construction of an existing industrial estate, retail development and housing	Significant effects unlikely.

Questions to be considered.	Yes, No, Unknown – provide description.	For Yes/Unknown are effects likely to be significant?
	adjacent to the Site will likely have already disturbed any remains that would have been present. However, there remains the potential for effects on both known and previously unrecorded archaeological sites, including deposits of palaeoenvironmental potential due to the Site's proximity to the River Neath. A Heritage Statement and Archaeological desk-based assessment is proposed to accompany the planning application. It is considered that any effects in terms of heritage impact would be localised and unlikely to be of a magnitude that would be so significant, such that they would warrant EIA.	
Are there any areas on or around the location which area already subject to pollution or environmental damage e.g. where existing legal environmental quality standards are exceeded, which could be affected by the project? Or in which it is considered there is such a failure? Such as AQMA?	No.	N/A
Is the project located susceptible to subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme or adverse climatic conditions, which could cause the project to present environmental problems?	No.	N/A

Statement Of Reasons
The proposed development to manage fluvial flood risk and surface water drainage and associated engineering works, will inevitably result in a number of effects, most notably in terms of the effects on hydrology. However, whilst these will likely be important considerations for the decision maker

and will need to be subject to further assessment, the type of development proposed, coupled with the context of the site and the localised nature of the impacts, are such that significant environmental effects are unlikely. It is therefore concluded that EIA is not required in this instance.

In coming to this decision the Authority has had due regard to all information submitted by the developers; the available results of other environmental assessments as well as the criteria set out within schedule 3. The Authority's main reasons for coming to this decision are set out within the above table. In conclusion, the Authority is of the opinion that the proposed development, either alone or in combination, are unlikely to have a significant adverse effect on the environment. This is on the understanding that the above identified effects could be avoided or prevented as specified within the table. As such, the likely effects of the development are unlikely to be significant enough to warrant EIA development.

AUTHORISATION

Case Officer:	Name:	CLAIRE HALL
	Signature:	
	Date:	11.08.2026
Authorised by:	Name:	HELEN BOWEN
	Signature:	
	Date:	12-8-26