

General Environmental Health Planning Consultation Response

Planning Application Ref: P2026/0473

Address: Verge At Junction Of Central Avenue And Polaris Drive Baglan Energy Park Port Talbot SA12 7AX

Planning Case Officer: Gavin Sterio

Comments provided by: Hannah Kent

Our Ref: PLN43346 & PLC43349

Date: Wednesday, August 19, 2026

200kW Energy Storage System (Battery Box)

The General Environmental Health Planning Consultation response to the above application has considered the following relevant areas:

Noise	☒	Air Quality	☐	Contaminated Land	☒
Odour	☐	Housing	☐	Other (please specify)	☐

The Environmental Health Team, in responding to the above application, provides the following substantive response:

No Comment	☐
No Objection subject to conditions (see the specified conditions below)	☒
Requires further information (see details below)	☐
Objection (on the grounds set out below)	☐

Overall Recommendation

Environmental Health have no objections to the proposals subject to our recommended conditions.

Observations and Comments

Thank you for consulting Environmental Health on this application.

The application is accompanied by a Planning Statement, Ref: BB -04234, dated May 2026, prepared for and by AMP Clean Energy confirming the proposal is to locate a battery box at the verge at Central Avenue and Road No 3 Junction, Baglan, Port Talbot, SA12 7AX.

"A Battery Box is an ESS that imports electricity from the local electricity network when demand for electricity is low or when there are high levels of renewable energy available. It then exports that electricity back to the grid when required during periods of high demand."

Section 5 of the submitted Planning Statement presents details of an “Environmental Review”, confirming that:

- *As the application site is within an existing developed area and minimal ground-breaking is required, there is no anticipated land quality issues.*
- *Noise produced by the proposed Battery Box will be minimal and will not have a significant impact on the surrounding area. The application is accompanied by a noise assessment: Battery Box - Noise Assessment V25, detailing the measured levels and the sound levels up to 25m from source. The Proposed development is not near any sensitive receptors therefore, we believe this will have no significant impact.*

Concluding that:

The location and small footprint of the proposed development means it will have no impact on the surrounding site.

Noise

The application is accompanied by a Battery Noise Assessment Report, Ref: 403.067027.00001, dated 26th of May 2026, prepared by SLR Consulting Limited. The report is not site specific, rather, it states:

The information provided in this Report may be used to indicate the specific noise level that may be expected at the nearest Noise Sensitive Receptors to the Site.

The report provides:

- *A description of the Battery Box Noise Sources.*
- *Noise Model Predictions.*

The noise levels associated with the proposed battery box are low, giving a sound pressure level of 26.4 LAeq,T dB.

The location of the proposed battery box on the verge at Central Avenue and Road No 3 Junction, Baglan, Port Talbot, SA12 7AX will not result in any noise impacting noise sensitive receptors either during the construction phase or the operational phase of the development. Environmental Health therefore have no objections to the proposals on the grounds of noise and do not consider the need to impose any noise conditions for the proposal.

Contaminated Land

The Planning Statement, Ref: BB -04234, dated May 2026, prepared for and by AMP Clean Energy confirms that:

As the application site is within an existing developed area and minimal ground-breaking is required, there is no anticipated land quality issues.

The application is also accompanied by a Coal Mining Risk Assessment Report, Ref: 71009846746001, dated 28th of July 2026, prepared by the Mining Remediation Authority. The report concludes that:

This report has identified that the proposed development site has been subject to past coal mining activity, namely potential shallow unrecorded workings in the Caerau (Four Feet), Lower Six Feet (Red/Baglan Vein/Big), Middle 9ft Top Leaf (Upper Nine Feet/ Middle Clay seam), and Lower Nine Feet coal seams . The risk to the site from legacy mining features is medium.

It is recommended that a structural engineer is consulted as to whether the risk of ground instability can be mitigated within the design of the foundations for the proposed development, considering the

small-scale nature of the development and foundations.

Nevertheless, subject to the undertaking of appropriate site investigations and any potential necessary remedial measures as outlined in Section 4a of this report, the Mining Remediation Authority considers that the site may be made safe and stable for future development and the risk to the development reduced to low. The recorded coal mining legacy issues present within the site do not pose any particular implications for the layout of the proposed development.

The Mining Remediation Authority advises the developer undertake a detailed Gas Risk Assessment where proposed development occurs over shallow coal reserves as is the case here.

In view of the conclusions reached by the Mining Remediation Authority, a ground gas risk assessment is recommended.

Recommended Conditions

In light of the aforementioned, Environmental Health recommends the following is included when determining the application:

LC05 - Condition associated with the Reporting of Unexpected Contamination

In the event that contamination is found at any time when carrying out the approved development that was not previously identified, work on site shall cease immediately and shall be reported in writing to the Local Planning Authority. A Desk Study, Site Investigation, Risk Assessment and where necessary a Remediation Strategy must be undertaken in accordance with the following document: Land Contamination: Development of Land Affected by Contamination Developers Guide 2023. This document shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority. Prior to occupation of the development, a verification report which demonstrates the effectiveness of the agreed remediation, shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: *To ensure that risks from land contamination to the future users of the land and neighbouring land are minimised, together with those to controlled waters, property and ecological systems, and to ensure that the development can be carried out safely without unacceptable risks to workers, neighbours and other off-site receptors.*

Footnote: <i>All contaminated land investigations must be undertaken by a suitably competent person in accordance with the Welsh Local Government Association, Natural Resources Wales & Welsh Government “The Development of Land Affected by Contamination: A Guide for Developers (version 4) 2023”, and BS 10175:2011+ A2:2017 Investigation of Potentially Contaminated Sites. Code of Practice.</i>

MG Informative 2 for land also potentially affected by contamination

The development site is located within a Coal Authority Coal Mining Reporting Area which could be a potential source of ground gas, and also an area potentially affected by contamination. Although the risk assessment processes for these are slightly different, they have similar themes and may form part of the same report, if produced by someone suitably

qualified and competent in both areas. Evidence of their competence will need to be detailed within the report.

Footnote: *All contaminated land investigations must be undertaken by a suitably competent person in accordance with the Welsh Local Government Association, Natural Resources Wales & Welsh Government “The Development of Land Affected by Contamination: A Guide for Developers (version 4) 2023”, and, BS 10175:2011+ A2:2017 Investigation of Potentially Contaminated Sites. Code of Practice.*