

Licence Application

Llay Industrial Estate, Great Crested Newt Licence Application 2023

Method Statement

Magellan Aerospace Ltd

March 2023



Contents

A. Executive Summary	1
B. Introduction	2
B.1 Background to activity/development	2
B.2 Full details of proposed works on site that are to be covered by the licence	2
B.3 Actions Requiring Licencing	2
C. Survey and Site Assessment	5
C.1 Existing information on great crested newts at the survey site	5
C.2 Statutory sites notified for the species (SSSIs or SACs) within 10km	5
C.3 Objectives of the survey	5
C.4 Scaled plan/map of survey area	5
C.5 Site habitat description	5
C.6 Field survey(s)	6
C.7 Survey results	6
C.8 Interpretation/evaluation of survey results	6
D. Impact Assessment	7
D.1 Short-term impacts: disturbance	7
D.2 Long-term impacts: site modification	7
D.3 Long-term impacts: site loss	7
D.4 Long-term impacts: fragmentation and isolation	7
D.5 Post-development interference impacts	7
D.6 Predicted scale of impact	8
E. Works to be undertaken by the Ecologist	9
E.1 Temporary receptor site details	9
E.2 Great Crested Newt habitat	10
E.3 Mechanisms for ensuring delivery of mitigation and compensation measures	11
E.4 Mitigation contingencies	12
E.5 Biosecurity risk assessment	12
F. Post-development site safeguard	13
F.1 Habitat/site management and maintenance	13
F.2 Population monitoring	13
F.3 Post-development mitigation contingencies	13
F.4 Mechanism for ensuring delivery of post-development works	13

Contents

G. Timetable of works	14
H. Land Ownership	15
H.1 Mitigation Site/Compensation/Site Ownership	15
I. Declaration	16
J. References	17
Appendices	18
Appendix A. Biosecurity Risk Assessment	19
Appendix B. Scaled Maps/Figures	1
Appendix C. Pre-existing survey reports	2

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A. Executive Summary

This method statement provides updated technical information on the potential impacts on great crested newts resulting from the proposed development of a new assembly, warehouse and distribution facility on land to the east of the existing Magellan Aerospace Factory, Llay Industrial Estate.

The site has recently had works undertaken under separate licence (Ref: S089700/1) in which site clearance and pitfall trapping took place, however this licence has now expired.

The method statement provides the assessment of the potential impacts and sets out the mitigation and compensation measures that will be implemented to ensure that there will be no adverse effect upon the favourable conservation status of the species in the short, medium and long term. The method statement also aims to minimise the risk of incidental harm to individual great crested newts and ensure legal compliance. The conclusion of this method statement covers the mitigation and compensation measures required to ensure no negative impacts on great crested newts, in order to satisfy the requirements of Regulation 53(9) (b) "that the action authorised will not be detrimental to the maintenance of the population of the species concerned at a favourable conservation status in their natural range".

B. Introduction

B.1 Background to activity/development

The development of the site will comprise of one large factory building with parking spaces and vehicular access around the building (as shown in Figure 1). There will be small areas of managed grassland at the edges of the Site around the car park. Additional trees will be planted at the northern boundary of the site for screening and to add landscape interest.

The site is located approximately 300m northeast from Llay Colliery, a known GCN population with breeding ponds. However, there are no suitable breeding ponds on the Site itself, but there is suitable connected terrestrial habitat for GCN by the way of dense scrub and rough stony ground. The data search returned 185 great crested newt records within the 2 km buffer and none from the site itself.

Off-site to the southwest of the site, there is an area that connects to the former Llay Colliery which is known to support great crested newts, it was surveyed in 2018 and it was found to have a peak count of 46 adult GCN within the waterbodies.

Although the proposed development site does not offer any potential breeding habitat, it does provide suitable terrestrial habitat for the species. The site was fenced, and pitfall trapped under licence in the summer 2021, then due to unforeseen delays in development, the area has been left resulting in damage to the fence and vegetation overhanging allowing the possible reintroduction of the species onto the site. And therefore, on a precautionary basis it is therefore assumed that they are likely to be present on the site.

B.2 Full details of proposed works on site that are to be covered by the licence

As previously stated, temporary amphibian fencing (TAF) has been installed along the site perimeter with the mitigation and receptor sites still present. Due to the breach in the fence, pitfall traps, carpet tiles and hand searches will be conducted to trap and move GCN into the receptor areas. Once the site is declared GCN free the potential resting places will be destroyed resulting in some permanent loss of habitat. A semi-permanent GCN fence will remain until construction has finished and the site can be opened back up.

Where possible, the site drainage will be designed to avoid the use of kerbs, gully pots and pipes to minimise the risk of GCN becoming trapped. Where drainage features are required, these will be an amphibian friendly specification.

B.3 Actions Requiring Licencing

Clearance of Great Crested Newts

The development will result in a loss of 1.1ha of habitat potentially suitable for great crested newt. Thus, it will be necessary to first clear any great crested newts that may have entered the fenced area, this will be carried out using a combination of methods that can only lawfully be undertaken under a development licence.

A temporary receptor site, for translocation of any GCN caught on the site has been identified at the nearest point to the Llay Colliery ponds within. The temporary receptor site had previously been enhanced to provide suitable terrestrial habitat for GCN with the addition of logs, carpet tiles and tin sheets. This area will be checked to ensure it remains suitable for terrestrial GCN. There will be no fencing to the south of this area, so the great crested newts have free movement to/from the off-site Llay Colliery.

Any newts captured in the grassland and scrub habitats on Site will be placed in the temporary receptor site allowing free movement towards the Llay Colliery breeding ponds and terrestrial habitat. Any discovered during refugia checks will be placed under similar refugia in the temporary receptor site. Animals found in pitfall traps at dawn, or during the course of destructive searches (if required), will also be placed under these refugia.

The temporary receptor site will eventually be part of the mitigation area. Therefore, once the mitigation area has been prepared, the fencing between the temporary receptor area and mitigation area will be removed to allow any GCN to freely move through to the mitigation area.

A further area of land, referred to as the bund, has been selected for permanent habitat creation and enhancement as compensation for the land lost on site. Once the creation and enhancement works are completed the fencing will be removed from the area to allow the newts to return naturally.

Exclusion fencing and trapping

For the protection of great crested newts during construction, fencing has been installed around the site boundary to prevent any newts from accessing the construction area. Overgrown vegetation at the base of the fence will be strimmed initially down to 150mm, left over night and then cut to ground level after 24 hours. Any areas of the fence that has become damaged will be repaired.

The alignment of the fencing is on the plan in Figure 2. Two access points are marked on this figure, which will take the form of a GCN Trench, stopping GCN entering the site from the north. These will form the two access points for construction traffic when the site is declared GCN free. GCN will be trapped in pitfall traps, and also captured under carpet tiles and by hand searches in the day and by torchlight. To aid in the detection, trained conservation dogs may be used to search for GCN on the site. The dogs indicate GCN and named ecologists will then move the GCN, by hand.

Monitoring of weather conditions

Due to the current timing of the licence application, it is anticipated that the great crested newt trapping exercise will commence in spring which is at the start of the GCN active season.

Trapping activities

Trapping in 2021 was carried out in accordance with guidance (www.gov.uk). Whilst typically a medium-sized population would require 60 trapping nights, following a

consultation with NRW¹ 30 suitable trapping nights was agreed on the basis of the distance of the Site to the off-site population, suitable off-site habitat within the immediate and intermediate habitat zones and narrow connectivity of the Site to the main population. It is anticipated 30 nights trapping will be carried out or until no captures have been made for a period of five suitable trapping nights. As no individuals were trapped during the 2021 surveys and the breach in the fence is not considered extensive, a further 30 nights of trapping will take place following the fence repairs.

Ecological supervision by an accredited agent or the Named Ecologist will be undertaken during vegetation removal and fence repairs. Any amphibians identified from within the area will be translocated to the temporary receptor site to ensure that they are not harmed.

Bucket (pitfall) traps are already in place from the last licence, with the lids in place. These are set at 5m intervals, with artificial refugia at a rate of one each 5m.

A range of appropriate logs, e.g. covering fence checks, all forms of amphibian capture and removal, and third party compliance visits will be maintained throughout the licensing period, in order to document activities carried out on site and demonstrate compliance with the performance indicators described in a Method Statement.

Site preparation works

- Following site clearance of great crested newts, toolbox talk to site-based construction staff; fence-checks; random un-announced internal verification compliance audits; and on-call service for site-based staff in case of any need for advice or site visit.
- Careful removal of TAF at the south of the site following trapping, allowing great crested newts to access the former Llay colliery site. The TAF surrounding the site boundary will be removed when works are completed in July 2024.

¹ Phone call between Alex Hatton (Atmos) and Matthew Ellis (NRW) on 05th October 2020

C. Survey and Site Assessment

C.1 Existing information on great crested newts at the survey site

There are no breeding ponds on site, however, the site is located approximately 300m northeast from Llay Colliery, a known GCN population with breeding ponds. There is suitable connected terrestrial habitat for GCN by the way of dense scrub and rough stony ground.

The data search returned 185 great crested newt records within the 2 km buffer and none from the site itself.

C.2 Statutory sites notified for the species (SSSIs or SACs) within 10km

There are four statutorily designated sites within 10 km of the site. Of these, two sites are designated, in part, for their great crested newt populations.

Deeside and Buckley Newt Sites SAC is located approximately 8.4 km northwest of the site. The site is selected for its population of great crested newts. Waterbodies on site were created by the extraction of clay, sand and coal, as well as for agricultural purposes, provide breeding habitat for one of the largest populations of great crested newts in Great Britain.

Johnstown Newt Sites SAC is located approximately 9.2 km south of the site. The site is a composite site and comprises one component SSSI, **Stryd Las a'r Hafod SSSI**. This site is included in the Natura 2000 series primarily for the population of great crested newts for which it is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.

Buckley Claypits and Commons SSSI is located 8.4 km north west of the site and is designated for its population of the great crested newt, its assemblage of widespread amphibian species, and for its mosaic of semi-natural grassland.

C.3 Objectives of the survey

No surveys were undertaken to inform this licence application. Existing data has been made available, detailing the presence of great crested newts within 500m of the site.

C.4 Scaled plan/map of survey area

Scaled plans showing the survey area considered within this licence application and the required licensable area are included in Figure 3 and Figure 4, respectfully.

C.5 Site habitat description

The site is mainly comprised of semi-improved neutral grassland. The site is an area of undeveloped industrial land which has been colonised by herbaceous vegetation and scrub. The grassland on Site supported species that were indicative of neutral grassland, comprising ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, vetch *Vicia Sp.*, ragwort *Jacobaea vulgaris*, knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, broad-leaved dock *Rumex obtusifolius*, red clover

Trifolium pratense, dove's-foot cranesbill *Geranium molle*, cock's-foot grass *Dactylis glomerata*, creeping cinquefoil *Potentilla reptans*, annual meadow grass *Poa Annua*, black medick *Medicago lupulina*, coltsfoot *Tussilago farfara* and tufted hair-grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*. There were also tall ruderal species such as teasel *Dipsacus fullonum* and hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*. There is also a small, wetted area that appears to be seasonal and supports species such as soft rushes *Juncus effusus* and several species of sedges *Cyperaceae sp.*

As there is no grazing or management of the grassland, this has led to the encroachment of scrub with species such as hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, gorse *Ulex europaeus*, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, *Forsythia*, and holly *Ilex aquifolium* being scattered throughout the site. There are some dense areas of scrub as well as more established tree species scattered in the site; silver birch *Betula pendula*, willow *Salix*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and oak *Quercus spp.* Within the scrub are areas of piles of rock and timber spoils.

C.6 Field survey(s)

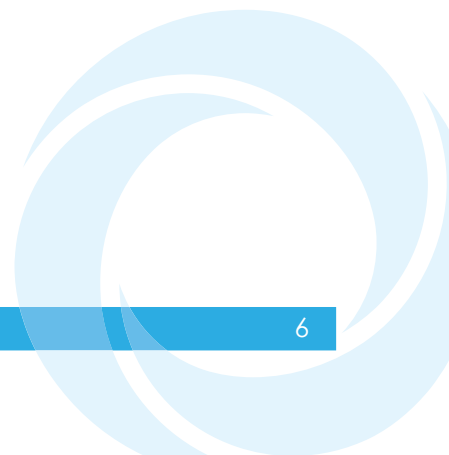
Guidance published by the statutory nature conservation agency in England (www.gov.uk) and also considered as acceptable survey practice by NRW suggests that if there are ponds within approximately 500m of an application site, even if that site does not contain any surface water features, it is necessary to consider whether great crested newts – whether they breed on-site or at off-site ponds within this radius – could have any potential to be using the terrestrial habitats within the site and to be affected by the proposed works. Data on GCN likely presence/absence within all ponds within 500m has therefore been considered.

C.7 Survey results

Off-site to the southwest of the site, there is an area that connects to the former Llay Colliery which is known to support great crested newts, it was surveyed in 2018 and it was found to have a peak count of 46 adult GCN within the waterbodies.

C.8 Interpretation/evaluation of survey results

Although the proposed development site does not offer any potential breeding habitat, it does provide suitable terrestrial habitat for the species and, by virtue of the proximity of the Site and suitable connecting habitat, on a precautionary basis it is therefore assumed that they are likely to be present on the Site.



D. Impact Assessment

D.1 Short-term impacts: disturbance

No known or potential GCN breeding areas will be affected by the development. No ponds will be destroyed.

Suitable terrestrial habitats within 50m of a breeding pond are conventionally considered to represent 'immediate' terrestrial habitat and are likely to be used by GCN most frequently, with areas between 50-250m representing 'intermediate' habitat and 250-500m considered as 'distant' terrestrial habitat.

D.2 Long-term impacts: site modification

No great crested newt breeding habitat will be affected by the development. The proposed development site will be comprised mostly of hard standing to be used as parking and a building. There will be an area of potential terrestrial GCN habitat lost. There will be small areas of managed grassland at the edges of the Site around the car park. Additional trees will be planted at the northern boundary of the Site for screening and to add landscape interest. The existing stone and soil bund at the south of the Site will be retained and enhanced as a mitigation area for GCN. Therefore, the proposed development will have limited suitable GCN habitat. However, the mitigation area to the south of the site will be enhanced to provide more suitable resting places for the species. The area to be modified is deemed to be on the very edge of the range of GCN and could be used by a few individual GCN's and therefore the long-term impacts will be minimal.

D.3 Long-term impacts: site loss

There will be long term loss of potential GCN habitat of around 1ha. The area to be lost is deemed to be on the very edge of the range of GCN in this area and could be used by a few individual GCN's and therefore the long-term impacts will be great for those individuals but minimal to the larger population that primarily live in and around the breeding ponds.

D.4 Long-term impacts: fragmentation and isolation

The site is on the edge of the range GCN will travel from a breeding pond. Further north of the site is industrial land, comprising of carparks and buildings and so is deemed not to be suitable for GCN. There will therefore be no fragmentation and isolation.

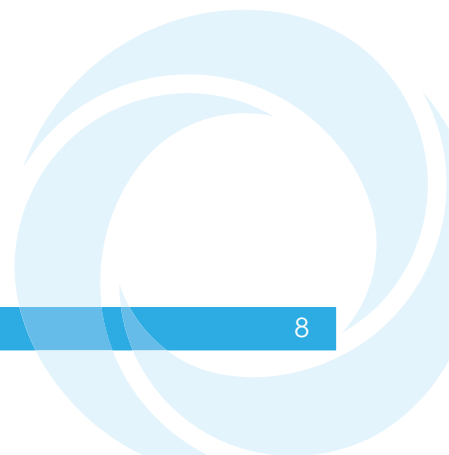
D.5 Post-development interference impacts

Once the development is complete the fence will be taken down and GCN will be able to access the site should they wish. As it will be largely unsuitable this is unlikely to occur and so the range will be ever so slightly contracted as they were unlikely to travel further north into more industrial land before the development.

D.6 Predicted scale of impact

Due to several ponds within the former Llay Colliery that are known to support breeding populations of GCN, in the absence of suitable mitigation measures, there is the potential for impacts on populations of great crested newts through disturbance and loss of habitat. However, the site is considered 'distant' GCN terrestrial habitat.

Based on existing great crested newt records and great crested newt habitat suitability it is assessed that, in the absence of mitigation and compensation, there would be a minor impact on great crested newts at site level and a barely perceptible impact on the local great crested newt meta population within the Llay area. It is assessed that there would be no impact beyond this area on a wider county, regional or country scale.



E. Works to be undertaken by the Ecologist

E.1 Temporary receptor site details

A temporary receptor site, for translocation of any GCN caught on the Site has been created at the nearest point to the Llay Colliery ponds within. The temporary receptor site has been enhanced to provide suitable terrestrial habitat for GCN with the addition of logs, carpet tiles and tin sheets. There is no fencing to the south of this area, so the great crested newts have free movement to/from the off-site Llay Colliery.

Any newts captured in the grassland and scrub habitats on site during night-time torchlight surveys will be placed in the temporary receptor site allowing free movement towards the Llay Colliery breeding ponds and terrestrial habitat. Any discovered during refugia checks – whether by day or night – will be placed under similar refugia in the temporary receptor site. Animals found in pitfall traps at dawn, or during the course of destructive searches (if required), will also be placed under these refugia.

The temporary receptor site will eventually be part of the mitigation area. Therefore, once the mitigation area has been prepared, the fencing between the temporary receptor area and mitigation area will be removed to allow any GCN to freely move through to the mitigation area.

Great crested newt capture & exclusion

The capture and exclusion of great crested newts from the site and mitigation area will be carried out using a combination of the following methods:

- Temporary amphibian fencing around the Site boundary;
- Creation of a temporary receptor site;
- Drift fencing at right angles from the amphibian fencing to aid trapping;
- Pitfall traps at approximately 10m intervals where possible given ground conditions;
- Artificial refuges (increased in density if/where pitfall traps cannot be installed); and
- Night-time torch-light surveys
- Conservation dog surveys as appropriate

For the protection of great crested newts during construction, fencing will be installed around the Site boundary to prevent any newts from accessing the construction area.

The alignment of the fencing is indicated on the plan in Figure 2 and the specification proposed is as per NRW guidance.

Due to the anticipated timing of the licence application and planning application timescales, it is anticipated that the great crested newt trapping exercise will commence in spring which is at the start of the GCN active season. A weather station will be set up on-site to monitor suitable trapping nights to maximise the capture effort and also temporarily cease any efforts if weather does become unsuitable.

The trapping will be carried out in accordance with guidance (www.gov.uk). Whilst typically a medium-sized population would require 60 trapping nights, following a

consultation with NRW² 30 suitable trapping nights was agreed on the basis of the distance of the Site to the off-site population, suitable off-site habitat within the immediate and intermediate habitat zones and narrow connectivity of the Site to the main population. It is anticipated 30 nights trapping will be carried out or until no captures have been made for a period of five suitable trapping nights.

Bucket (pitfall) traps will be set into the ground at an average of 5m intervals, with artificial refugia at a rate of one each 5m. Capture rates will be accelerated by using night-time torch surveys to help to check for and clear newts, if any are present.

A range of appropriate logs, e.g. covering fence checks, all forms of amphibian capture and removal, and third party compliance visits will be maintained throughout the licensing period, in order to document activities carried out on site and demonstrate compliance with the performance indicators described in a Method Statement.

E.2 Great Crested Newt habitat

E.2.1 Receptor site modification, enhancement or creation

The bund at the south of the Site will be used as the mitigation area. The area will be enhanced to support terrestrial newts by creating appropriate refuges and hibernaculas (as shown in Figure 5). Once the area has been cleared of newts, the area will be visually checked by an accredited agent or the Named Ecologist or accredited agent prior to strimming of vegetation at approximately 150mm high, it will then be left overnight and then cut to ground level. The bund will then be covered with topsoil and areas of logs piles created. The soil will be sown with a wildflower meadow mix. When the area is established and suitable for terrestrial newts, the southern part of the fencing will be removed to allow newts to re-enter the area.

Terrestrial Habitat Enhancement

No additional habitat enhancement is proposed other than to the mitigation area.

E.2.2 Temporary loss of breeding sites, resting places

There will not be any temporary loss of habitat as a consequence of the proposed development, as the land-take for the new factory will be permanent and is thus detailed below.

E.2.3 Destruction of existing breeding sites, resting places

There will not be any destruction of breeding habitat as a consequence of the proposed development.

It is anticipated that there is potential for the works to result in the destruction of current great crested newt resting places and foraging habitat, as there are opportunities for newts to take cover within the working area (i.e. within grass tussocks, dense scrub and rough stony ground). In comparison to the terrestrial habitats present in the surrounding

² Phone call between Alex Hatton (Atmos) and Matthew Ellis (NRW) on 05th October 2020

landscape, those within the working area are less suitable. However, dispersing newts, especially juveniles, may range from the former Llay Colliery and then seek refuge within the rough grassland and scrub.

The exclusion and translocation process will ensure that any great crested newts that have been sheltering within rough stony ground or grass tussocks within the working area are removed prior to any construction activity that would disturb them.

The project programme is provided in Section G: Timetable of works.

E.2.4 Scaled maps/plans

The plan in Figure 3, indicates the location of the temporary amphibian fencing, from within which area great crested newts will be excluded, trapped and translocated. Figure 4 also shows the translocation/mitigation area to the south of the site which allows for the great crested newts to access the known breeding ponds at the former Llay Colliery.

E.3 Mechanisms for ensuring delivery of mitigation and compensation measures

E.3.1 Measures to ensure compliance with this method statement

An internal compliance audit process will routinely be undertaken by the Named Ecologist and/or accredited agents. An ecological compliance audit is proposed to ensure adherence with this Method Statement and any Conditions specified in the development licence.

Visits will be carried out weekly for the first month and monthly or at key or sensitive stages of the proposed works. The findings of the audit will be reported to Magellan Aerospace Limited, the named Ecologist and NRW within a fortnight of each compliance visit, unless a major non-compliance is identified, in which case it will be reported within a maximum of 24 hours of discovery.

E.3.2 Ensure that sufficient land has been acquired for compensation purposes

An area of land has been safeguarded as a mitigation area for great crested newts that is proportionate to the number of individuals anticipated to be found on the site.

E.3.3 Ensure that designs of subsequent development are newt friendly

There are not anticipated to be further developments on the site as the area under their ownership has been fully utilised.

E.3.4 Provide sufficient resources

No compensation land is proposed and therefore no long-term resources are required.

E.4 Mitigation contingencies

In the unlikely event that significant numbers of GCN are disturbed outside of the high risk of GCN presence areas works will stop immediately, pending consultation with NRW regarding the requirement for further mitigation measures to capture and translocate GCN.

E.5 Biosecurity risk assessment

A Biosecurity Risk Assessment is attached as Appendix A which will be adopted during construction work future site management.

F. Post-development site safeguard

F.1 Habitat/site management and maintenance

To ensure the bund habitat remains in a suitable condition it should be cut once per year and only when the seeds have gone to head. This should be done using hand tools such as a strimmer to the height of 150mm and all arising should be removed from the area.

No permanent amphibian fencing is to be left on the area once the development has finished and therefore there is no maintenance of it.

F.2 Population monitoring

No population monitoring is planned. No new ponds are planned for creation that would require short- or long-term monitoring and management.

F.3 Post-development mitigation contingencies

No post development mitigation is proposed other than to monitor that the bund habitat remains in a suitable condition. There should be yearly checks in the summer to ensure that the mitigation area remains suitable for terrestrial GCN, that the bund is re-establishing, and the hibernacula are in good condition. This should be for two years, however, be increased if it is not suitable habitat for GCN.

F.4 Mechanism for ensuring delivery of post-development works

The site of the factory will be owned and occupied by Magellan Aerospace Ltd. They will therefore be responsible for managing and maintaining it in accordance with the requirements of the GCN licence.

G. Timetable of works

- GCN Licence submitted to NRW March 2023;
- GCN licence received by May 2023;
- May 2023 amphibian fencing to be repaired;
- 30 consecutive nights trapping, and translocation commences May to June 2023 with any GCN moved to receptor;
- June 2023 establish mitigation area
- Area declared free of GCN and construction commences on late June to early July 2023;
- Fencing between temporary receptor site and mitigation area opened up, August 2023, which will allow any GCN to move southwest to the former Llay Colliery which is known to support GCN.
- End of ground preparation works to be completed by November 2023
- Building completed by June 2025
- Landscaping completed by August 2023
- Site opens for normal use (and therefore TAF to the back of the site removed) November 2025

H. Land Ownership

H.1 Mitigation Site/Compensation/Site Ownership

Not applicable.

Mitigation Site/Compensation Ownership post construction

Not applicable.

I. Declaration

Table 1: Declaration box

I declare that should a licence be granted, the work as proposed in this Method Statement will be strictly adhered to. I understand that any deviation from the works as proposed in this Method Statement without agreement from NRW would result in a breach of the licence. NB. Applicants should note that it is an offence under regulation 59 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 to knowingly or recklessly provide false information in order to obtain a licence.			
Signature of the Applicant	Patrick Gillen	Date	28/03/2023
Full name in BLOCK LETTERS			
Signature of the Ecologist	Alex Hatton	Date	28/03/2023
Full name in BLOCK LETTERS		ALEX HATTON	

J. References

www.gov.uk great crested newt licensing pages accessed between May and August 2016

Froglife (2001) Great crested newt conservation handbook

Gemmell, Dr. R. P. (December 2000) Pre-development Ecological Survey of the Proposed Access Route.

Wilkinson, J. (August 2002) Aberdo Quarry, Flintshire. Great Crested Newt Licence No. GCN/059/NWA/IND Method Statement Annex I – Renewal Application. Report to Smiths Gore on behalf of DP Williams (Holdings) Ltd. Report ref. SG-DPW-02/licence renewal/v3

Appendices

Appendix A.

Biosecurity Risk Assessment

Biosecurity risk assessment

AC Line

Risk	Means of spreading	Risk during this project	Means of controlling risk
Chytridiomycosis, known as Chytrid - a disease of amphibians causing mortality	Movement of amphibians, water or materials between sites.	- Low risk as no work is to take place within ponds - Found in some parts of the UK and widespread across other parts of the world.	- All equipment that comes into contact with amphibians to be disinfected between sites. - All footwear to be disinfected between sites if entering water- see additional disinfection guidelines below. - Vehicles entering water will also be disinfected between sites. - Dead amphibians to be treated as high risk and avoided. <i>Disinfection procedure for chytrid:</i> <i>All equipment that has been in contact with amphibians or water will be disinfected.</i> <i>Equipment required:</i> <i>Bucket</i> <i>Brush</i> <i>Disinfectant- Virkon/household bleach</i> <i>Disposable gloves</i>

			• Bin bags • Fresh water Where disinfection is required, as identified above, the following procedure will be followed: 1. Brush off any soil or plant material 2. Rinse with clean water 3. Disinfect the boots with Virkon, mixed to the manufacturers guidelines, usually 10mg/ml, for one minute 4. Fabrics should be washed on a 40 degree cycle, with detergent. If this is not possible between sites, a change of clothes will be required. 5. Any nets used should be boiled, or if the fabric allows, sprayed with a bleach/disinfectant. 6. Allow to dry or if going on to another site rinse equipment with clean water 7. If the above is not possible until off site, then field equipment and footwear must be transported in plastic bags to avoid transmitting chytrid. 8. Disinfectants would ideally be poured down a drain after use. If this is not possible they may be poured onto a hardstanding away from vegetation.
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Japanese knotweed - An invasive alien plant	Spreads via machinery or moving soil between sites, via rhizomes in the roots/stems.	High risk - This species has been identified just off site on the track to towers 191 and 192.	- Induction will include a section on making contractors and staff aware of identification of this plant - Soil will not be moved between sites. - Vehicle wheel arches and tyres will be cleaned between sites and a suitable disinfectant used.
Himalayan balsam- An invasive alien plant	Spreads via machinery or moving soil between sites; via seeds.	Medium risk- This species is present along the route	- Induction will include a section on making contractors and staff aware of identification of this plant - Soil will not be moved between sites. - Vehicle wheel arches and tyres will be cleaned between sites and a suitable disinfectant used.
Phytophthora - a parasitic fungi causing dry rot in plants.	Spreads through traversing heathland and woodlands sites, spread via soil and material.	Low risk as limited work will take place in woodland	Precautions to be taken include: All soil and material to be removed from wheel arches, tyres, machinery and footwear sprayed with 'Propeller' disinfectant.
TB/Foot and Mouth - Notifiable diseases of livestock	Contact with animals and animal faeces.	The works will cover multiple farms in a small area, and so the chance of disease occurring is	Precautions: Wash soil and animal faeces from tyres, wheel arches and footwear before moving to different farms;

		small but the precautionary principle should be applied.	Spray with a virkon solution or similarly effective chemical.
Chalara - Ash dieback disease- fungus eventually causing the death of the ash tree affected	Mostly spread through the air.	Due to the limited woodland work and no recent reports in the immediate area, there is low risk	Any suspected signs of the disease will be reported to Natural Resources Wales (NRW).

Appendix B. Scaled Maps/Figures

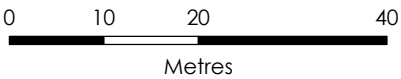


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Figure 1
Phase 1 habitat survey

- Key
- Site boundary
 - Scrub - dense/continuous
 - Scrub - scattered
 - SI Neutral grassland - semi-improved
 - Fence
 - Earth bank
 - Target Note



Scale @ A3:
1:800



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Figure 2
GCN Mitigation Fencing

- Key**
- Site boundary
 - GCN fencing
 - Temporary GCN fencing - to be removed after completion of mitigation area
 - Access point
 - Mitigation area
 - Temporary relocation



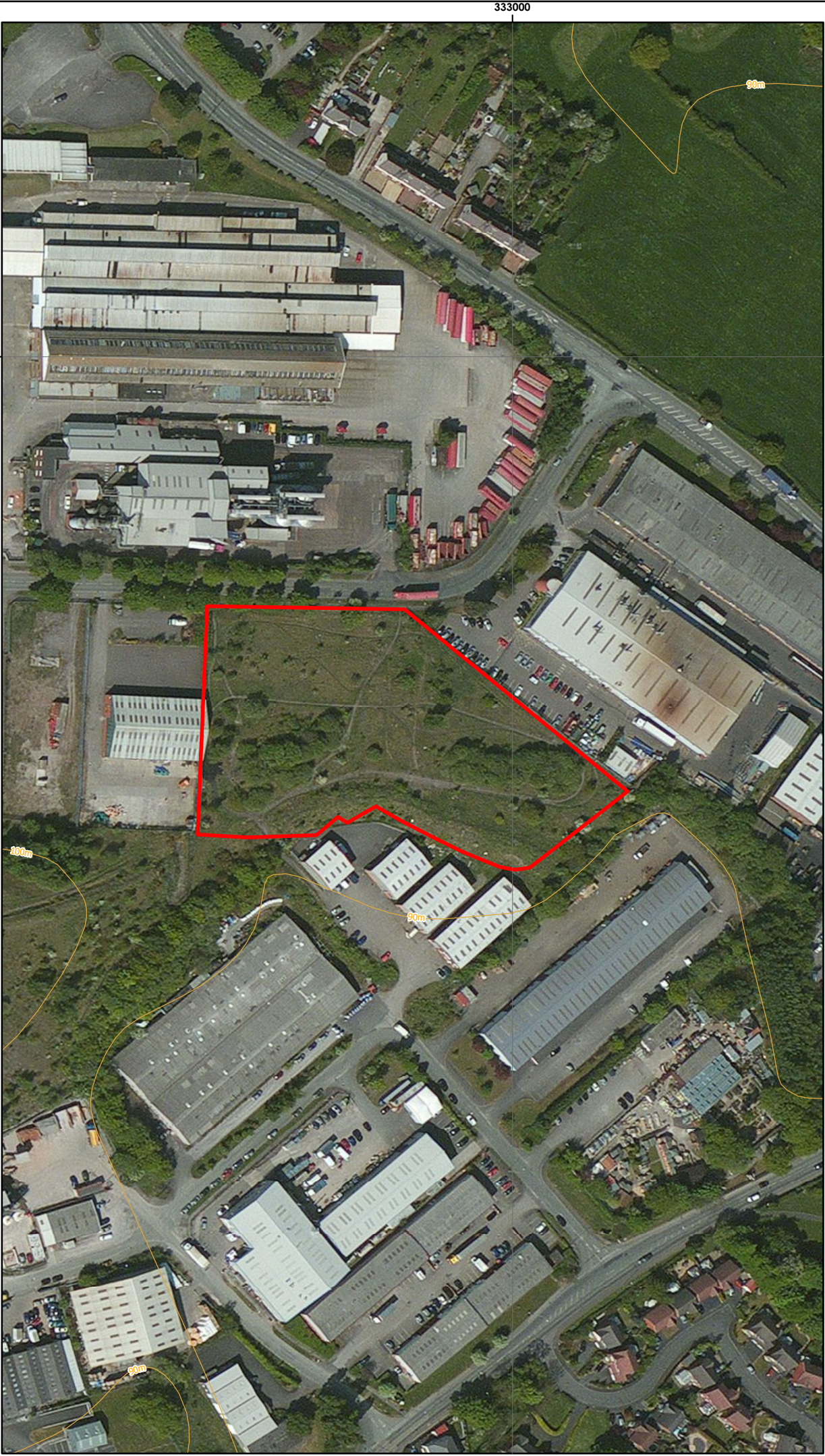
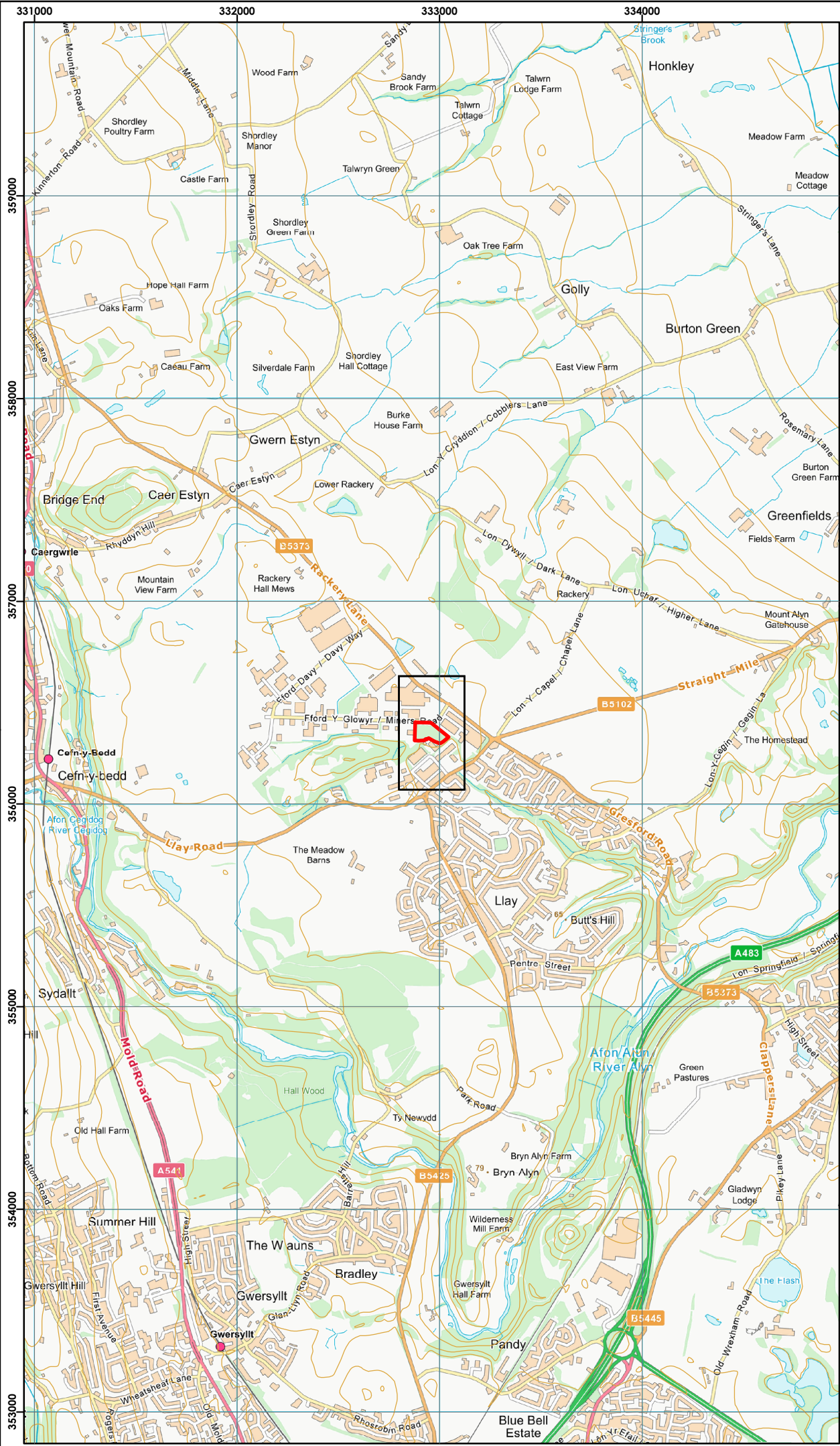
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Metres

N

Scale @ A3:
1:2,500

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Figure 3
Location map

Key
[Red outline] Site boundary

atmos
CONSULTING

00.250.51

Kilometers

N

Scale @ A3:
1:25,000



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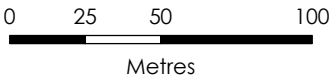


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Figure 4
Licensable area

Key
[Red outline] Site boundary



Scale @ A3:
1:2,500



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332900

333000



356300

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Figure 5
Receptor site

Key

- Site boundary
- GCN fencing
- Temporary GCN fencing - to be removed after completion of mitigation area
- Mitigation area
- Temporary relocation area

atmos
CONSULTING

0 5 10 20
Metres



Scale @ A3:
1:500



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26/04/2021

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Drawn by: KM Checked by: TH Approved by: AH