Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru
Natural Resources Wales

Ein cyf/Our ref: CAS-303995-C3M3
Eich cyf/Your ref: P/2026/0150

Wrexham County Borough Council
The Guildhall
Wrexham
LL11 1AY

Dyddiad/Date: 15 April 2026

Annwyl Syr/Madam/Dear Sir/Madam,

BWRIAD/PROPOSAL: SITING OF MODULAR BUILDING AND INSTALLATION OF COVERED WALKWAY

LLEOLIAD/LOCATION: WREXHAM MAELOR HOSPITAL, CROESNEWYDD ROAD, WREXHAM, LL13 7TD

Thank you for consulting Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru/Natural Resources Wales (NRW) about the above, which we received on 23 March 2026.

We have concerns with the application as submitted because inadequate information has been provided in support of the proposal. To overcome these concerns, you should seek further information from the applicant regarding flood risk. If this information is not provided, we would object to this planning application. Further details are provided below.

Flood Risk
The planning application proposes a less vulnerable development: a modular building to act as a data centre plus a covered walkway. The Flood Map for Planning identifies the application site to be at risk of flooding and within Flood Zone 2 (Rivers).

We refer you to Section 10 of Technical Advice Note 15: Development, flooding and coastal erosion, dated 2025 (TAN15) for advice on how you should consider this application in line with current planning policy.

We are unable to give you technical advice on the acceptability of flooding consequences as no Flood Consequences Assessment (FCA) has been submitted. The advice in paragraph 10.24 of TAN15 is clear 'In zones 2, 3 and TAN 15 defended zone developers must undertake a flood consequences assessment proportionate to the nature and scale of the proposal. Before granting planning permission, decision makers should be satisfied the scheme is justifiable in accordance with the principles set out in section 8, where they are not satisfied, planning permission should be refused.' Therefore, in accordance with paragraph 15.4, we advise you to use your powers to request further information.

TAN15 advises that the FCA should be proportionate to the nature and scale of the proposal. Developers should refer to all relevant sections of the TAN to determine the scope of the FCA that is required for this particular proposal. Further guidance is also available on our website.

Furthermore, should you be minded to go against our advice, you should inform us at the earliest opportunity prior to granting consent and allow sufficient time for us to make further representations.

Please note, if an FCA is not submitted or any subsequent FCA fails to demonstrate that the consequences of flooding can be acceptably managed over the lifetime of the development, then we are likely to **object** to the application.

Nutrient Sensitive Catchment
We note the application site is within the catchment of the River Dee Special Area of Conservation (SAC). In line with our Advice to Planning Authorities for Planning Applications Affecting Nutrient Sensitive River Special Areas of Conservation, under the Habitats Regulations, Planning Authorities must consider the impact of proposed developments on water quality within SAC river catchments.

However, recognising the specific nature of the application submitted: a proposal that does not involve any foul drainage, we are satisfied that there is unlikely to be a source of additional nutrients and/or a pathway for impacts. As such, in our opinion, it would be reasonable for your Authority to screen out this proposal as not likely to have a significant effect on the River Dee SAC in relation to nutrient inputs.

Other Matters
The advice in this letter relates to matters which are included on our consultation topics list. We do not rule out the potential for the proposed development to affect other environmental interests that are not included on this list.

We advise the applicant that, in addition to planning permission, it is their responsibility to ensure they secure all other permits/consents/licences relevant to their development. Please refer to our website for further details.

If you have any queries about the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yn gywir / Yours faithfully,

Debra Renshaw
Cynghorydd - Cynllunio Datblygu/Advisor - Development Planning
Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru/Natural Resources Wales

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Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg, heb i hynny arwain at oedi./Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.