



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

15 November 2021

Dear

## **ATISN 15614 – INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE**

### **Information requested**

Thank you for your request for information which I received on 20 October 2021.

You asked for:

- 1) *If a section of canal was unearthed anywhere in Blaenavon, that may or may not have a link to the Ironworks there, would the council be allowed to destroy it to build a car park? If not why not?*
- 2) *Cadw to explain why parts of scheduled ancient monuments in Merthyr Tydfil can be excavated and then having been revealed allowed by Cadw to be destroyed?*
- 3) *If another section of the canal that was constructed by Anthony Bacon, to serve the Cyfarthfa ironworks is discovered in Merthyr Tydfil would Cadw protect it or allow its destruction?*
- 4) *What are the names of the people at Cadw who worked with GGAT and Merthyr Tydfil Council to bring about the destruction of parts of the two scheduled monuments Ynysfach and Cyfarthfa ironworks.*

### **Our response**

The Freedom of Information Act gives the public a right to access information that is recorded by a public authority, but where the information is not recorded, there is no onus on an authority to create new information.

I will take your questions in order:

Questions 1-3 are asking me to present an opinion on matters about which we hold

no recorded information. Furthermore, it is inappropriate for me to speculate on these questions as the proposals you mention are likely to either require planning permission, scheduled monument consent, or both. However, in each of the scenarios that you describe the proposals would of course require very careful scrutiny in light of supporting documentation/justification submitted by the applicant

and the Welsh Government's Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales, Planning Policy Wales, Technical Advice Note 24: Historic Environment and associated guidance. I have attached links to the relevant documents for your information:

[Conservation Principles | Cadw \(gov.wales\)](#)

[Policy, advice and guidance | Cadw \(gov.wales\)](#)

Question 4 – We do not hold any information of the kind that you describe. Cadw has not worked to bring about the destruction of parts of the scheduled monuments Ynysfach or Cyfarthfa Ironworks.

### Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,  
Welsh Government,  
Cathays Park,  
Cardiff,  
CF10 3NQ

or Email: [Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales](mailto:Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales)

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,  
Wycliffe House,  
Water Lane,  
Wilmslow,  
Cheshire,  
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely



Mae Gwasanaeth Amgylchedd Hanesyddol Llywodraeth Cymru (Cadw) yn hyrwyddo gwaith cadwraeth ar gyfer amgylchedd hanesyddol Cymru a gwerthfawrogiad ohono.

The Welsh Government Historic Environment Service (Cadw) promotes the conservation and appreciation of Wales's historic environment.

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg ac yn Saesneg.  
We welcome correspondence in both English and Welsh



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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE