

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Local Development Plan 2011 - 2026

The Historic Environment Supplementary Planning Guidance (April 2019)





	Note to Reader				
1	Introduction				
2	Historic Context				
3	Policy Context				
	3.1	National Policy	9		
	3.2	Local Policy	12		
T	he C	onservation of the Historic Environment			
4	Conservation of the Historic Environment	15			
	4.1	Scheduled Monuments	16		
	4.2	Listed Buildings	16		
	4.3	Conservation Areas	16		
	4.4	Registered Historic Assets	22		
	4.	4.1 The Register of Historic Parks and Gardens in Wales	22		
	4.	4.2 The Register of Historic Landscapes in Wales	26		
	4.5	Buildings and Historic Assets of Local Importance	30		
	4.6	Neath Port Talbot Canal Network	34		
Α	ppeı	ndices			
A	Sche	dule of Buildings of Local Importance	39		
В	Canals BLI List				
	B.1	Swansea Canal	55		
	B.2	Tennant Canal	56		
	B.3	Neath Canal	56		
C	Procedure for Identifying BLIs				

Note to Reader

This document supplements and explains the policies in the Local Development Plan (LDP). The LDP was adopted by the Council on 27th January 2016 and forms the basis for decisions on land use planning in the County Borough up to 2026.

This Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) has been prepared following a public consultation exercise that was undertaken early in 2019 and the guidance was adopted by the Council's Regeneration and Sustainable Development Cabinet Board on 12th April 2019.

While only policies in the LDP have special status in the determination of planning applications, the SPG will be taken into account as a material consideration in the decision making process.

This SPG is also available in Welsh, either to download or by request. Should you need this document in another format, then please contact the LDP team at Idp@npt.gov.uk or [01639] 686821.

1 Introduction

- **1.0.1** This Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) gives an overview of the historic environment of Neath Port Talbot and outlines the planning policy protections that are in place to safeguard and conserve as far as possible the historic assets of the County Borough.
- **1.0.2** Statutory protection has been afforded to the most significant buildings and structures for many years through the scheduling of important ancient monuments and the listing of buildings of special architectural or historic interest. In addition, specific areas or neighbourhoods are designated as Conservation Areas, and Registers of Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic Landscapes have been compiled.
- **1.0.3** The Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan (LDP) adopted in January 2016 adds an additional local designation to these provisions by including a policy affording protection to 'Buildings of Local Importance' (Policy BE2). This allows buildings or structures that have architectural, historic or local community significance (but have not met the criteria for formal listing or scheduling) to be identified and included on a local list for protection under local planning policy.
- **1.0.4** This document gives advice about the requirements that will need to be met if developments are proposed which could affect any type of historic asset and outlines the approach that will be taken when such proposals are considered.

1. Introduction

2 Historic Context

Origins and Growth of the Area

Prehistoric

- **2.0.1** The Swansea, Neath and Afan valleys were carved out of the landscape largely as a result of glaciation during the last ice age: at its furthest extent the ice sheet spread as far as the Bristol Channel. Some evidence of human activity has been found in the region dating from soon after the retreat of the ice some 10,000 years ago, but the first known traces of human activity within the boundaries of Neath Port Talbot date from neolithic times.
- **2.0.2** A significant number of prehistoric sites exist within Neath Port Talbot including Neolithic chambered tombs, Bronze Age cairns, barrows and standing stones and Iron Age hill forts. Known monuments from these periods are often identified and protected as scheduled monuments, but many other sites are likely to exist but remain currently unknown. Within Neath Port Talbot, many of the known features from prehistoric times are to be found on higher ground: on hilltops and moorland and along ridgeways. However, this may be due to evidence of populations on lower lying and coastal areas being obscured by more recent development and sea level rise.

Roman

2.0.3 When the Romans first arrived in south Wales (around 52-57 AD), the area is thought to have been a frontier area lying between the territories of the Silures and Demetae Iron Age tribes. This may be reflected in the pattern of development, with three large Roman marching encampments (temporary forts) being established in the area, followed by major forts at Neath and Coelbren probably with significant associated civilian settlements. The main Roman road through south Wales (Via Julia Maritima) followed a route broadly similar to the present day A48, with the Roman road of Sarn Helen linking coastal areas with other Roman centres inland including at Brecon.

Medieval

2.0.4 In the early medieval period, Roman and pre-Roman communication links would have remained important and it is likely that Margam Abbey, Neath Abbey and St. Baglans were all ecclesiastical centres prior to the foundation of the later monasteries/churches. The Norman influence reached Morgannwg (Glamorgan) in about 1093, which was followed by new land ownership patterns and the foundation of the boroughs of Neath, Aberafan and Kenfig. Within the County Borough, Neath is the most notable settlement having clear medieval or pre-medieval origins, with some significant extant remains (in particular the castle and St. Thomas' Church) together with the central street plan, town bridge and overall character reflecting its history. There is little evidence remaining of the medieval origins of central Port Talbot (Aberafan) (the site of a castle and settlement at the crossing point of the river Afan).

2. Historic Context

- 2.0.5 The monasteries were of significant importance at this time: Neath Abbey controlled and managed a large area of land to the west of the river Neath, with the resulting clearance of woodland and organisation of agriculture via a system of monastic granges. Margam Abbey was similar, but involved a greater investment in drainage and land improvement resulting in a clearly different landscape character and settlement pattern, visible to this day.
- 2.0.6 Overall, the medieval landscape pattern in the area was not characterised by nucleated villages with open field systems as in much of England and parts of Wales but was 'woodland pasture' comprising enclosed pasture/arable fields and woodlands with highly dispersed settlements. The upland areas show a relatively even distribution of house platforms and long houses complemented by open upland ridges used for common pasture. This contrasts with the nucleated boroughs of Neath and Aberafan which were created by the Norman lords.

Post Medieval and Modern

- **2.0.7** The dissolution of the monasteries in the 16th Century led ultimately to a transfer of landholdings from the church to the local aristocracy, following which many landed estates remained in the same families until modern times. The pattern of industrialisation was influenced by these estates, including copper and iron at Neath Abbey and lead and copper industries at the Gnoll/Melincryddan.
- **2.0.8** These early industrial developments were then affected by changes in sources of materials and motive power (including the importing of materials from elsewhere by sea and the move from water power to steam and the use of coal). This resulted in a general move of industry from locations near water power (such as in the valleys) to more accessible coastal sites (e.g. Briton Ferry ironworks 1860).
- **2.0.9** The introduction of improved transport systems, initially canals in the Neath and Swansea valleys in the 1790s and later tramways and railways, opened up the valleys to development to exploit the coal resources, resulting in new settlements (Glynneath, Ystalyfera, and the villages of the Afan Valley in particular). Other industries were locating at Briton Ferry and Port Talbot close to port facilities vital for coal exports and the iron and steel industry.
- **2.0.10** Further into the 20th century new industries (including petro-chemical installations at Baglan and Llandarcy and the establishment of manufacturing such as that associated with the motor industry at Resolven and Fabian Way) brought new development and associated housing as more traditional industries declined. The newer industries of the 20th century have now declined in their turn, to be replaced by service industries and high tech manufacturing linked to the universities and new forms of energy generation.

Patterns of Settlement

2.0.11 Until the beginning of the 19th Century, there were very few settlements of any size in the NPT area, apart from Neath, Aberafan and a few old established villages such as Cilybebyll. The modern settlement pattern in the area has grown as a response to the

requirements of the various industries that sprang up through the 19th and 20th centuries, starting with the copper and coal industries at Neath, Neath Abbey and Briton Ferry and later following the growth of the coal industry in the valley areas.

- **2.0.12** The historic development of the network of communications is the other key factor influencing the settlement pattern of the area. The town of Neath is sited at a key strategic location at the historic lowest crossing point of the river Neath, with Aberafan at the equivalent location on the River Afan, and development has spread along the main transport routes, linking important industrial sites as these grew. This has resulted in areas of linear urban development linking older established settlements along the coastal belt, with smaller, more separated valleys settlements in locations that met the requirements of industry (mainly coal mining).
- **2.0.13** In terms of the historic legacy, this has resulted in conglomerations of urbanised areas along the coastal belt and main east-west transport routes, effectively linking the eastern side of Swansea with the wider Neath and Port Talbot settlements with continuous linear development. Within this are older areas and centres associated with various phases of industrial development and (in a few cases) pre-industrial settlement. In valleys areas there are also some linear patterns of development (for example in the Swansea Valley) but with a general tendancy towards more stand alone separate settlement clusters (for example Resolven or Crynant).

Local Building Traditions

2.0.14 Local styles and traditions of building tend to reflect the history of settlement development in the area, from traditional Welsh farmsteads (with their longhouses and traditional stone barns), characteristic terraces of stone and slate houses associated mainly with the growth of the coal industry in the valleys, and extensive housing estates to accommodate workers in the steel and petro-chemical industries of the 20th Century.

Social History

- **2.0.15** In common with most parts of Wales, religious nonconformity was a significant influence across the area from the 18th to the 20th centuries. Nonconformist denominations, including the Calvinist, Baptist and Wesleyan movements, grew alongside the expanding industries leaving a significant legacy of chapel buildings throughout the area, ranging from simple early meeting houses to increasingly grandiose structures of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
- **2.0.16** One of the oldest established secular traditions in the area is the Neath September Fair which can trace its origins back over 700 years to an original Charter granted in 1280 and can therefore claim to be the oldest fair in Wales and one of the oldest in the UK.
- **2.0.17** Local artistic associations include the area's popularity with a significant number of notable artists in the late 18th and early 19th Century. The scenic beauty including mountains and waterfalls, combined with picturesque ruined abbeys, castles and churches feature in notable works from the period include paintings by Thomas Horner (1785-1844), William Weston Young (1776-1847) and J.M.W Turner (1775-1851) which capture the pre-industrial character of the area and the beginnings of industrialisation.

2. Historic Context

2.0.18 Famous names with associations or connections with the Neath Port Talbot area include Lord Nelson (said to have stayed at the Castle Hotel Neath on more than one occasion) the engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel (construction of number of railways and Briton Ferry dock) and Alfred Russel Wallace (naturalist who independently formulated a theory of evolution and was an associate of Charles Darwin).

2.0.19 In more recent times a number of names famous in the sporting and entertainment worlds have connections in the area, including film stars Richard Burton, Anthony Hopkins and Michael Sheen, all from Port Talbot. Neath in particular has strong sporting associations, with the Welsh Rugby Union being founded in the Castle Hotel in 1881.

Built Legacy

2.0.20 The historic context outlined above has left an important built legacy from all periods across the County Borough. This is reflected in the spatial patterns of statutory and non-statutory historic designations (refer to Chapter 4). In broad terms, Scheduled Monuments tend to be clustered on hilltops and ridgeways (prehistoric), older population centres or industrial sites; Listed Buildings are mainly clustered in the County Borough's older population centres, while the Conservation Areas range in character from old established town and village centres, through distinctive housing and industrial developments, to the former country estate of Margam Park.

2.0.21 The building types identified as nationally important Listed Buildings or as locally recognised Buildings of Local Importance under LDP Policy BE2 (refer to Chapter 4) reflect the social and economic history of the area. Many examples of churches and chapels are included (mainly from the era of rapid industrialisation), but also included are examples of houses, pubs, schools and entertainment venues that typify their time and the local social and economic history of the area. These historic assets can all help to illustrate the story of the growth of the area and its changing building techniques and styles, bringing to life the culture and society of the past.

3 Policy Context

3.1 National Policy

Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015)

- **3.1.1** The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 places a duty on public bodies (including Welsh Ministers) that they must carry out sustainable development. In carrying out this duty, actions which public bodies must take include:
- Setting and publishing objectives ('well-being objectives') that are designed to maximise
 its contribution to achieving each of the well-being goals; and
- Taking all reasonable steps (in exercising its functions) to meet those objectives.
- **3.1.2** The Act puts in place seven well-being goals to help ensure that public bodies are all working towards the same vision of a sustainable Wales. In relation to the historic environment, the most relevant well-being goal is the achievement of *'a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language'* which would include the need to promote and protect culture, heritage and the Welsh language.

Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016

- **3.1.3** The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 received Royal Assent on 21st March 2016. It has three main aims:
- To give more effective protection to listed buildings and scheduled monuments;
- To improve the sustainable management of the historic environment; and
- To introduce greater transparency and accountability into decisions taken on the historic environment.
- **3.1.4** The Act amends the two pieces of UK legislation the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 that currently provide the framework for the protection and management of the Welsh historic environment. It also contains new stand-alone provisions relating to historic place names; historic environment records and the Advisory Panel for the Historic Environment in Wales.

Planning Policy Wales (PPW) Edition 10 (2018)

3.1.5 PPW sets out Welsh Government policy and guidance and was completely revised in 2018 in order to ensure that the planning system fully addresses the vision and requirements of the Well-Being of Future Generations Act. The overall approach to be taken in relation to the historic environment is set out in Chapter 6 (Distinctive and Natural Places) which identifies the key issue in relation to the historic environment of: 'loss of venues for cultural activities or historic assets: understanding and addressing the challenges of loss of cultural features which give places their unique feel, including those subjected to particular pressure as a result of increasing demands for urban living'.

3. Policy Context

- **3.1.6** The document sets out the Welsh Government's specific objectives for the historic environment together with guidance on roles and responsibilities and the planning approach to be taken to the various categories of historic areas, sites, buildings and other remains.
- **3.1.7** The identified specific objectives are:
- Protect the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Sites;
- Conserve archaeological remains, both for their own sake and for their role in education, leisure and the economy;
- Safeguard the character of historic buildings and manage change so that their special architectural and historic interest is preserved;
- Preserve or enhance the character or appearance of conservation areas, whilst at the same time helping them remain vibrant and prosperous;
- Preserve the special interest of sites on the register of historic parks and gardens;
 and
- Protect areas on the register of historic landscapes in Wales.

Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment (2017)

- **3.1.8** TAN 24 gives more detailed advice on the historic environment in relation to the planning system in Wales. This includes information on the following matters:
- Archaeological remains, including procedures for dealing with archaeological remains on development sites or affected by development (including unexpected discoveries), preserving or partially preserving them in situ and recording them;
- Scheduled monuments, including designation (based on the national importance of the asset) and requirements and procedures for scheduled monument consent (dealt with by Welsh Ministers/Cadw);
- Listed buildings, including designation (based on special historic architectural or historic interest) and requirements and procedures for listed building consent (dealt with by the local authority or by Welsh Ministers depending on circumstances);
- Conservation areas (largely dealt with by local authorities), including designation and review, conservation area appraisals, conservation area consent and special provisions for trees in conservation areas
- Registered historic assets (historic parks and gardens and historic landscapes), including procedures for dealing with developments that could affect these designations.
- Historic assets of special local interest, designated by local authorities and protected by local planning policy (See Section 4.5 Buildings of Local Importance below)

Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales (Cadw 2011)

3.1.9 'Conservation Principles' was published by Cadw in March 2011 and sets out the guidance principles that Cadw applies when undertaking work on the monuments in its care and when considering consent and grant applications. The principles embody the

10

objectives of conserving and enhancing the historic environment for the benefit of present and future generations and aim to nurture Wales's rich culture and heritage as a vehicle for regeneration and for fostering local character and distinctiveness.

- **3.1.10** The six principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales are:
- Historic assets will be managed to sustain their values.
- Understanding the significance of historic assets is vital.
- The historic environment is a shared resource.
- Everyone will be able to participate in sustaining the historic environment.
- Decisions about change must be reasonable, transparent and consistent.
- Documenting and learning from decisions is essential.
- **3.1.11** Explanatory paragraphs about how to apply each of these principles are provided in Conservation Principles. In addition, a section on 'Understanding Heritage Values and Assessing Significance' defines four heritage values: evidential value; historical value; aesthetic value; and communal value. These are intended to provide the basis for making a Statement of Significance against which the effects of any proposed changes can be measured.
- **3.1.12** Finally, the document includes a section called 'Conservation Principles in Action' offering advice about changes to significant historic assets. This looks at different levels of change from routine maintenance and repair, restoration and new work, through to situations where historic assets are threatened by other overriding interests or the need for enabling development.

Cadw Guidance

- **3.1.13** Cadw (the Welsh Government's Historic Environment Service) have also published a wide range of guidance documents to complement the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and recent planning policy and advice. These include the following titles:
- Managing Change to Listed Buildings in Wales sets out general principles to consider when making changes to listed buildings and explains how to apply for listed building consent, including the roles and responsibilities of owners, local planning authorities and Cadw itself.
- Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales sets out the general principles to consider when planning changes to historic assets and applying for listed building and conservation area consent.

3. Policy Context

- Managing Lists of Historic Assets of Special Local Interest in Wales sets out general principles and good practice for preparing and managing lists of local historic assets — including criteria, nomination, consultation, validation, appeals and monitoring — and provides guidance on their use in the planning system.
- Setting of Historic Assets in Wales explains what setting is, how it contributes to
 the significance of a historic asset and why it is important. It also outlines the principles
 used to assess the potential impact of development or land management proposals
 within the settings of World Heritage Sites, ancient monuments (scheduled and
 unscheduled), listed buildings, registered historic parks and gardens, and conservation
 areas.
- **3.1.14** Other Cadw publications give advice on a wide range of topics including advice on the conservation and re-use of chapels, historic farm buildings, small rural dwellings; the installation of renewable energy installations, energy efficiency measures and barrier free access and the approach to be taken to a range of buildings, features and monuments of historic interest from all periods. These publications are all available on the Cadw website⁽¹⁾.

3.2 Local Policy

- **3.2.1** The policy framework for the historic environment in Neath Port Talbot is set out in Chapter 5.5 of the Local Development Plan (LDP) entitled culture and heritage.
- **3.2.2** Policies SP21, BE2 and BE3 set out the local policy framework, Policy SP21 being the strategic policy that sets the context for the subsequent detailed policies. Policy SP21 aims to deliver LDP Objectives OB2, OB23 and OB24, OB23 being of particular relevance to the historic environment: 'Protect and enhance the County Borough's historical heritage, built environment and identity'.

Strategic Policy SP21 Built Environment and Historic Heritage

3.2.3 Policy SP21 sets out the measures that will be taken to deliver the LDP objectives. Criteria 3 and 4 are specifically relevant to the historic environment and outline the categories of historic assets that will be protected. The designated sites listed under criterion 4 are protected under national policy.

Policy SP 21

Built Environment and Historic Heritage

The built environment and historic heritage will, where appropriate, be conserved and enhanced through the following measures:

Encouraging high quality design standards in all development proposals;

12

- 2. Protecting arterial gateways from intrusive and inappropriate development;
- 3. Safeguarding features of historic and cultural importance;
- 4. The identification of the following designated sites to enable their protection and where appropriate enhancement:
 - (a) Landscapes of Historic Interest;
 - (b) Historic Parks and Gardens;
 - (c) Conservation Areas;
 - (d) Scheduled Ancient Monuments; and
 - (e) Listed Buildings and their curtilage.

LDP Objectives: OB 2, OB 23 and OB 24

Policy BE2 Buildings of Local Importance

3.2.4 Buildings of Local Importance are locally identified historic assets of special local interest. Policy BE2 sets out the measures that will be taken to conserve these features.

Policy BE 2

Buildings of Local Importance

Development proposals that would affect buildings that are of local historic, architectural or cultural importance will only be permitted where:

- 1. They conserve and where appropriate enhance the building and its setting; or
- 2. It is demonstrated that the development could not reasonably be accommodated without affecting or replacing the building and the reasons for the development outweigh the heritage importance of the site.

3. Policy Context

Policy BE3 The Canal Network

Policy BE 3

The Canal Network

- 1. In order to protect and conserve the canal network, the following lengths of canal will be safeguarded:
 - (a) The Swansea Canal at Trebanos from the County Borough boundary to the southern edge of the playing fields;
 - (b) The Swansea Canal from Pontardawe Town Centre to Godre'r Graig;
 - (c) The Tennant Canal;
 - (d) The Neath Canal from Briton Ferry to Ysgwrfa Bridge, Aberpergwm.

Proposals which would prejudice the conservation, restoration and operation of these safeguarded lengths of canal will be resisted. Proposals will need to demonstrate that they would not adversely affect the setting of the canals or prevent or discourage the use of the canals for recreation and water supply;

2. Developments affecting locations where lengths of canal have been drained, infilled, culverted, obstructed or cut off from the remainder of the network, but where there is the possibility of future reinstatement, will be expected to take into account the historic line of the canal and to avoid the introduction of buildings or structures that would prevent reinstatement.

- **4.0.1** Historic remains, features and buildings may take a wide variety of forms from archaeological deposits to large extant buildings and structures. Some 95% of historic assets are not formally designated, but all historic sites, features and finds need to be taken into account for their intrinsic historical and educational value when any development is proposed.
- **4.0.2** Where assets have been formally designated, the strength of protection is related to the classification status of the building or structure and therefore to its importance and significance, and ranges from the statutory protections afforded by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, to local policies and guidance. These provisions are outlined below.

Historic Environment Record

- **4.0.3** The most accessible and comprehensive information on all known archaeological sites, historic buildings and other components of the historic landscape is contained in the Historic Environment Record (HER) for Neath Port Talbot, which is managed by Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust on behalf of the Welsh Ministers. Information from the HER is used to inform the planning process and in the determination of planning applications.
- **4.0.4** Local Authorities have an important role in contributing to the HER and once it has been adopted, the Schedule of Buildings of Local Importance (Appendix A) will be sent to Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust for inclusion as appropriate in the HER.

Archaeological Remains

- **4.0.5** Developments may have an impact on archaeological remains, whether they are designated or non-designated assets, and this may include both physical and visual (setting) effects. Measures may be required for archaeological investigation, recording and/or preservation. Depending on the importance of the archaeological resource, this may range from the preservation of the remains and setting in situ, to pre-determination mitigation (including archaeological and historic environment assessments, geophysical or other survey work, and field evaluation). In addition there may be the potential for post-determination fieldwork, post-excavation and reporting.
- **4.0.6** Impacts on designated historic assets and their setting is dealt with by Cadw, who must be consulted if any development is proposed that may impact Scheduled Monuments or Registered Historic Landscapes.
- **4.0.7** Further information about the approach taken to archaeological issues is given in TAN24. Developers are encouraged to use the Council's pre-application service so that such matters can be discussed at an early stage prior to the submission of a formal planning application.

16

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4. The Conservation of the Historic Environment

4.1 Scheduled Monuments

- **4.1.1** Welsh Ministers compile and maintain a schedule of monuments, which comprise historic assets which are considered to be of national importance. This is assessed through reference to specified criteria including: the period represented; the rarity of the monument; any existing documentation; group value; survival and condition of the remains and their fragility/vulnerability; the diversity of the monument's features; and sometimes the potential for important evidence to exist justifying scheduling without this being fully known.
- **4.1.2** Scheduling is intended to ensure that monuments are preserved, and there is a presumption against proposals that would result in significant change or damage or that would significantly affect the setting of remains. Any works that would directly affect a scheduled monument require scheduled monument consent, which is a process dealt with by Welsh Ministers through Cadw. However, consent is granted for certain classes or descriptions of work by the Ancient Monuments (Class Consents) Order 1994. Full details are given in TAN24.
- **4.1.3** Full details of the locations and reasons for scheduling of all scheduled monuments within Neath Port Talbot is available on the Cadw/Cof Cymru website⁽²⁾.

4.2 Listed Buildings

- **4.2.1** Listed Buildings are nationally important buildings and other assets that have been identified and included on a list that is compiled by Welsh Ministers under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Act) 1990. To be included on the list, buildings have to meet criteria as being of special architectural and historic interest. Buildings are listed in three grades (I, II* and II) depending on their importance.
- **4.2.2** Any works to a Listed Building that would affect its character (including demolition, alteration and/or extension) would require listed building consent (as a separate matter from normal planning permission). Applications for listed building consent are determined taking special account of the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any of its features of special architectural or historic interest and it is a criminal offence to carry out any such works without the required consent.
- **4.2.3** Full details of the requirements and procedures relating to listed building policy and legislation are given in TAN24. Full details of the locations and list descriptions of all listed buildings within Neath Port Talbot is available on the Cadw/Cof Cymru website⁽³⁾.

4.3 Conservation Areas

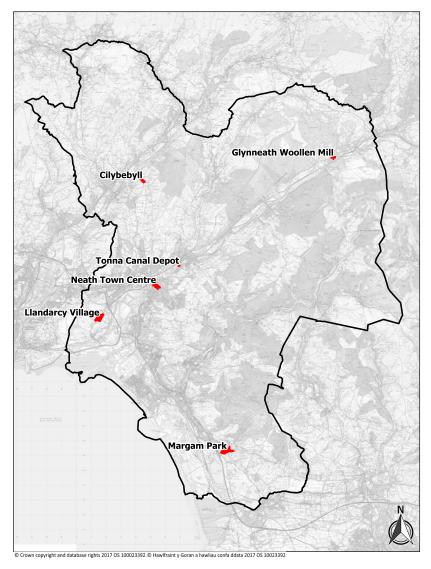
- **4.3.1** Conservation areas are normally identified and designated by Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) and are defined as areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.
- **4.3.2** There are six conservation areas within Neath Port Talbot. These can be found on the LDP Proposals Map [SP21/4(c)] and are shown below.

http://cadw.gov.wales/historicenvironment/recordsv1/cof-cymru/?lang=en

³ http://cadw.gov.wales/historicenvironment/recordsv1/cof-cymru/?lang=en

Figure 4.1

Conservation Areas



- **4.3.3** A brief description and plan of each conservation area is given below:
- **4.3.4** *Cilybebyll*: a small self-contained rural village grouped around the parish church of St. John the Evangelist.

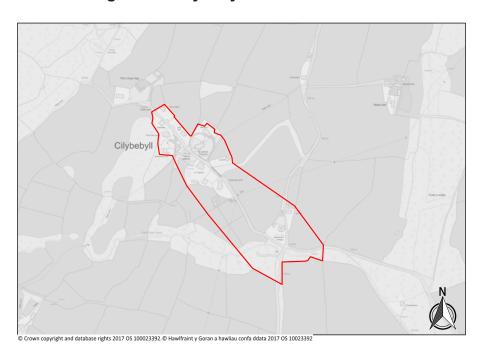


Figure 4.2 Cilybebyll Conservation Area

4.3.5 Glynneath Woollen Mill: a relatively small area comprising a group of mainly terraced houses, some of distinctive red brick and three storey design, centred around three streets associated with the former woollen mill.



Figure 4.3 Glynneath Woollen Mill

4.3.6 Llandarcy: originally designed as a garden village, built between 1918 and 1922, of some 250 houses and flats to house the workers of the former adjacent oil refinery in an 'arts and crafts' style.

18



Figure 4.4 Llandarcy

4.3.7 Margam Park: the conservation area comprises the central part of the park, including the main buildings (Margam Castle, the Orangery, the Abbey church and ruins) and formal gardens.

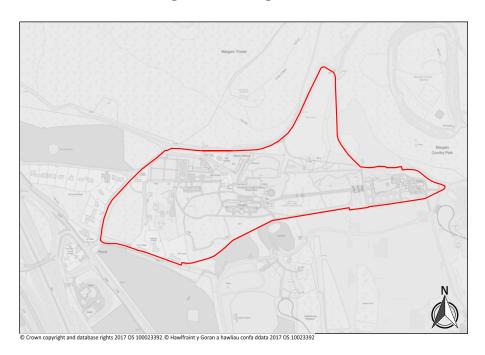
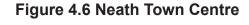


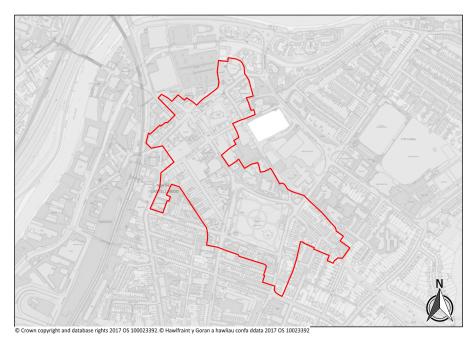
Figure 4.5 Margam Park

4.3.8 Neath Town Centre: features of importance include the traditional commercial centre with some small shop units, the general market, public buildings, the castle, St. Thomas' church, Victoria Gardens and other architectural features and structures.

20

4. The Conservation of the Historic Environment





4.3.9 Tonna Canal Depot: a small area around the Neath Canal at Tonna, including the restored canal depot and workshops, canal structures including lock and lock gates, and the residential lock house property.

Ess Co. Total

Figure 4.7 Tonna Canal Depot

4.3.10 Conservation area designation means that the identified architectural or historic interest of an area should be given special consideration in planning policy and decision making. In particular, special attention must be given to the desirability of *preserving* or

enhancing any affected conservation area when planning decisions are taken. In addition, a number of specific provisions for development proposals within conservation areas are applicable, as listed below.

- **4.3.11 Permitted Development Rights:** Householders are able to undertake certain minor, uncontentious improvements and alterations to their properties without the need to make a planning application. This is termed *'Permitted Development'*. Within Conservation Areas these provisions are more restrictive. Full details are available from the Welsh Government website⁽⁴⁾.
- **4.3.12 Conservation Area Consent:** This is a separate consent from normal planning applications and will be required for demolition works within a Conservation Area (although smaller buildings and structures are excluded). Further details are available in TAN 24.
- **4.3.13 Design and Access Statements and Heritage Impact Assessment:** In addition to the normal requirement to submit a 'Design and Access Statement' (DAS) to accompany planning applications for major developments, one will also be required for planning applications for developments in Conservation Areas that are for one or more dwellings or for the creation of new floorspace of 100 square metres or more.
- **4.3.14** Applications for Conservation Area Consent will also require a 'Heritage Impact Statement' (detailing the results of a Heritage Impact Assessment). Where a DAS is required, the Heritage Impact Statement can be incorporated. Further advice on these assessments is available in TAN12 (Design), TAN24 (The Historic Environment)⁽⁵⁾ and from *Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales* (Cadw)⁽⁶⁾.
- **4.3.15** *Trees:* Proposals to fell or lop any tree in a Conservation Area should be notified to the LPA giving six weeks notice during which time the authority can consider whether the tree(s) should be protected by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO).

Conservation Area Appraisals

- **4.3.16** The Council will be preparing a 'Conservation Area Appraisal' (CAA) for each Conservation Area. This will include a detailed assessment of the character and appearance of each area defining its special interest, an assessment of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to its integrity, an analysis of the area's policy and management needs and the effectiveness of current controls and need for additional protection.
- **4.3.17** In dealing with applications, full regard will be paid to the effects of proposals on the character of the Conservation Area as set out in the relevant CAA, with the objective of ensuring that all proposals accord with the need to preserve or enhance the area's identified character, appearance and setting.

5

https://gov.wales/topics/planning/policy/guidanceandleaflets/householder-permitted-development-rights/?lang=en

Both available on the Welsh Government website: https://gov.wales/topics/planning/policy/tans/?lang=en

⁶ Available on the Cadw Website: https://cadw.gov.wales

22

4. The Conservation of the Historic Environment

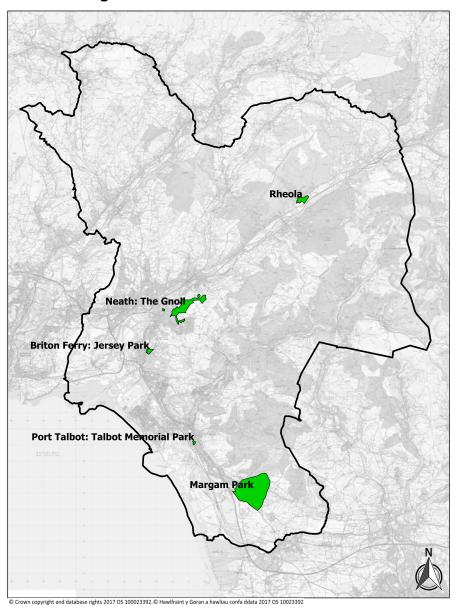
4.4 Registered Historic Assets

4.4.1 The Register of Historic Parks and Gardens in Wales

- **4.4.1.1** The statutory register of historic parks and gardens is compiled and maintained by the Welsh Ministers, and the parks and gardens on the register, together with their settings, should be protected and conserved by Local Planning Authorities.
- **4.4.1.2** Historic parks and gardens are graded in a similar way to listed buildings (Grades I, II* and II), and the park boundaries and essential settings are defined. There are six registered parks/gardens within Neath Port Talbot and these are illustrated below.

Figure 4.8

Registered Historic Parks & Gardens



4.4.1.3 *Margam Park (Grade I)*: A multi-layered site of outstanding historical importance including prehistoric and Cistercian abbey remains and Tudor, 18th Century and 19th Century garden and landscaping phases.



Figure 4.9 Margam Park

4.4.1.4 *The Gnoll, Neath (Grade II*)*: A largely 18th Century landscape park of very great historical interest, in its original setting above Neath. The landscape of the Gnoll is exceptional for its combination of industrial and ornamental functions and for its strong visual relationship with the surrounding countryside.

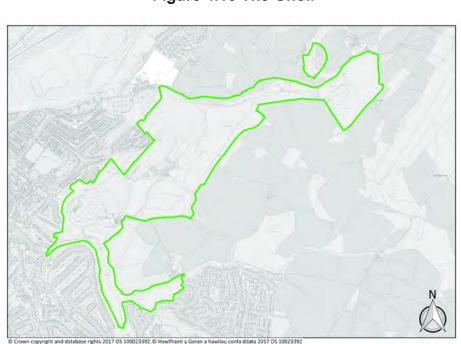


Figure 4.10 The Gnoll

4.4.1.5 Jersey Park, Briton Ferry (Grade II): An exceptionally well preserved urban public park. Its original layout of formal and informal areas remains complete and includes sports facilities.

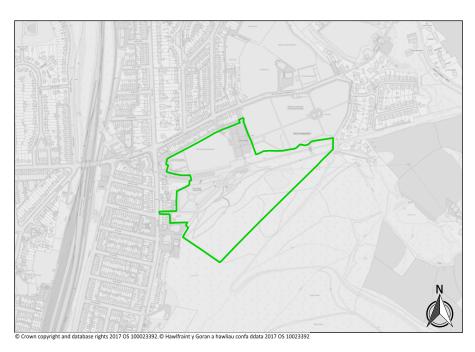


Figure 4.11 Jersey Park

4.4.1.6 *Victoria Gardens, Neath (Grade II)*: A small, well preserved and popular urban park, with most of its original layout and features.



Figure 4.12 Victoria Gardens

7/

4.4.1.7 *Talbot Memorial Park, Port Talbot (Grade II)*: A small, well preserved urban public park with a fine central bandstand and war memorial.



Figure 4.13 Talbot Memorial Park

4.4.1.8 *Rheola (Grade II)*: The survival of an early 19th Century villa by John Nash and its contemporary picturesque setting. Although part of the park was developed by a wartime aluminium plant, the majority of the setting, which was kept deliberately simple, survives, as do some of Nash's picturesque estate buildings.

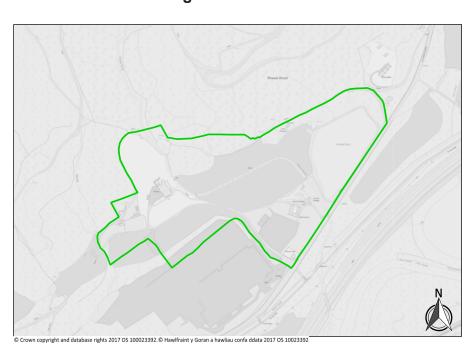


Figure 4.14 Rheola

4.4.1.9 Proposals that could affect a registered park or garden or its setting will need to be fully assessed, including consultation with Welsh Ministers/Cadw, to ensure that there are no adverse effects, and applicants should ensure that the significance of the registered park/garden and any impacts are shown to be fully understood and addressed.

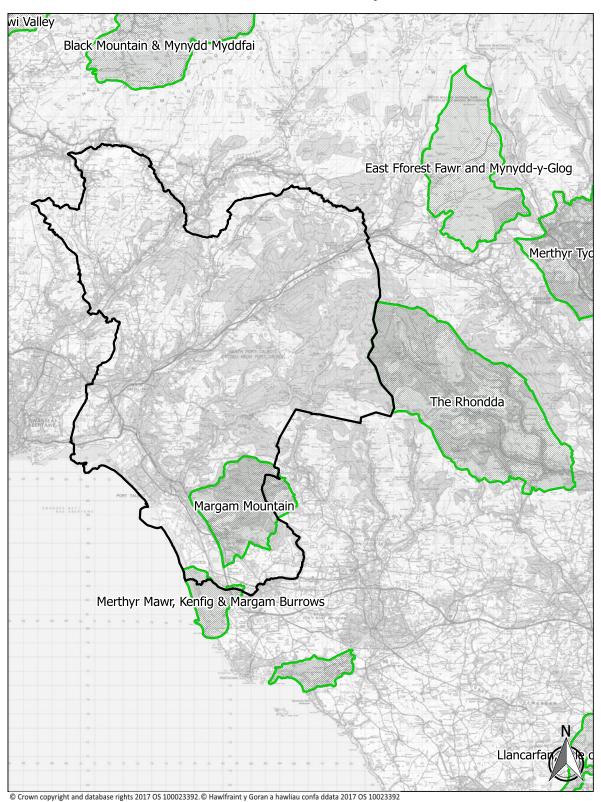
4.4.2 The Register of Historic Landscapes in Wales

- **4.4.2.1** The non-statutory Register of Historic Landscapes in Wales is an advisory register that is intended to inform policy making and decision making at a strategic level and to inform environmental impact assessment. Development proposals should ensure that any affected historic landscape areas are taken into account and that the integrity and coherence of the areas is maintained.
- **4.4.2.2** There are two registered historic landscapes within or partly within Neath Port Talbot, and one which adjoins the County Borough boundary and consequently could be affected by development within Neath Port Talbot.
- **4.4.2.3** The boundaries within Neath Port Talbot of 'Margam Mountain Historic Landscape' and 'Merthyr Mawr, Kenfig and Margam Burrows Historic Landscape' are shown on the LDP Proposals Map [SP21/4(a)]. Historic Landscapes within Neath Port Talbot and within neighbouring administrative areas are illustrated below.

27

Figure 4.15

Historic Landscapes



4.4.2.4 *Merthyr Mawr, Kenfig and Margam Burrows*: The designation comprises two distinct areas: Merthyr Mawr (to the south east of Porthcawl) and Kenfig/Margam Burrows, which extends partly into Neath Port Talbot.

4.4.2.5 The landscapes are listed as being extensive areas of littoral, wind blown sand dunes containing buried remains of immense archaeological and historic potential from the prehistoric, Roman and medieval periods.

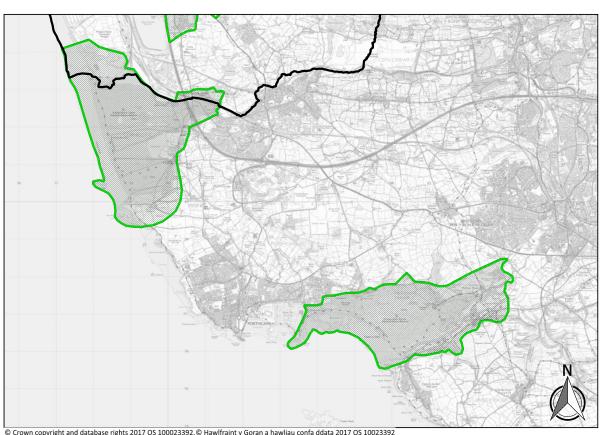


Figure 4.16 Merthyr Mawr, Kenfig and Margam Burrows

© Crown copyright and database rights 2017 OS 100023392. © Hawifraint y Goran a nawliau confa ddata 2017 OS 1002339.

4.4.2.6 *Margam Mountain*: A discrete block of uplands situated at the south west fringe of the historical Glamorgan Blaenae, displaying continuity, density and diversity of human occupation from the prehistoric period to the recent past.

4.4.2.7 The area includes Bronze Age ritual and funerary monuments; large Iron Age hill forts, settlements, enclosures and trackways; a Roman road; a large and important group of Early Christian inscribed stone monuments and associations; medieval defensive works; Margam Abbey, later a site for gentry residences; a landscaped park, pleasure gardens and a magnificent Georgian orangery; and second world war defensive installations. Part of the designated area is located within the Bridgend administrative area.

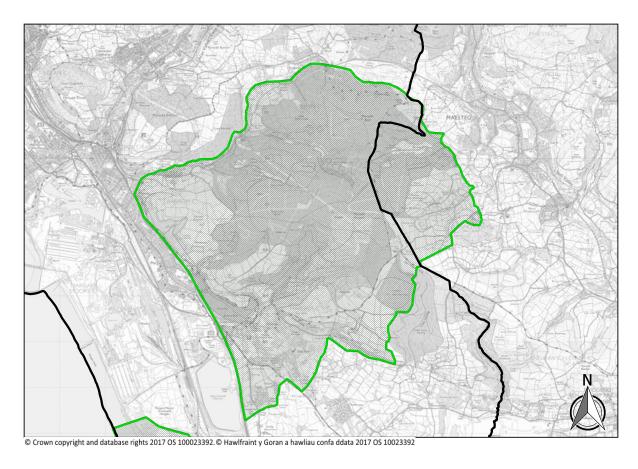


Figure 4.17 Margam Mountain

4.4.2.8 *The Rhondda*: Although not within Neath Port Talbot, this area abuts the County Borough boundary to the east of the Afan and Corrwg valleys.

4.4.2.9 The area represents one of the largest and best-known mining conurbations and coalfield communities in Britain. The wider landscape is rich in a diverse and thematic archaeological resource of many periods and types, showing a high degree of cultural interest and continuity.

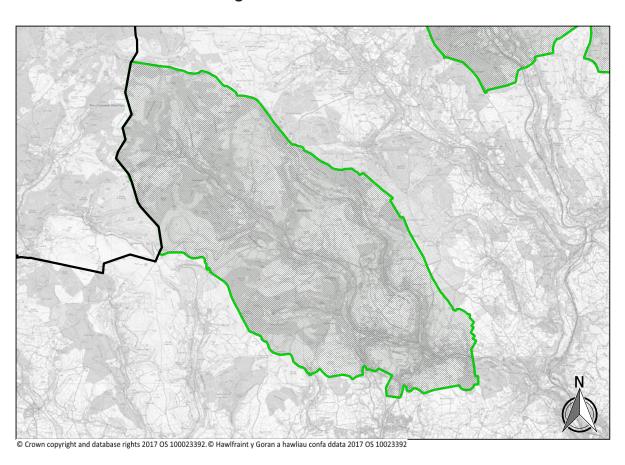


Figure 4.18 The Rhondda

4.4.2.10 Guidance on the approach to be taken to proposals that may affect registered historic landscapes has been published by Cadw⁽⁷⁾.

4.5 Buildings and Historic Assets of Local Importance

4.5.1 LDP Policy BE2 (refer to Section 3.2) seeks to give protection to *Buildings of Local Importance* (BLIs). BLIs are locally identified and designated buildings (and other historic assets) that may not meet the requirements to be included on the statutory list of buildings of architectural or historic importance or the schedule of monuments, but are considered to be important within the local context and therefore to be worthy of conservation.

4.5.2 This policy was incorporated into the LDP as a result of strong representations received from across Neath Port Talbot from those concerned that the character and distinctiveness of their communities was being compromised through the loss or spoiling of distinctive and characterful buildings and (in some cases) their replacement with bland modern developments.

- **4.5.3** The buildings that have been identified for BLI designation are therefore not necessarily of national architectural or historical significance, but are considered to have strong associations with the locality and to give distinctive character to the community or settlement. The aim of the policy is to try to retain this local character.
- **4.5.4** Since the adoption of the LDP, Cadw has issued guidance on the compilation of local lists of buildings (using the term *Historic Assets of Special Local Interest*)⁽⁸⁾. The compilation of the BLI list has been undertaken following the principles set out in this guidance and in accordance with the explanatory text to LDP Policy BE2 which states that an inventory of BLIs is to be compiled as part of the preparation of this Historic Environment SPG.
- **4.5.5** For the purposes of this guidance the term *Building of Local Importance* (BLI) should be taken to be the equivalent of and to incorporate the term *Historic Asset of Special Local Interest.*

Schedule of Buildings of Local Importance

Preparation and Engagement

4.5.6 The list of BLIs has been compiled in accordance with the procedure and criteria set out in Appendix C. The list has been subject to a consultation process with building owners which has resulted in some amendments (including some additional suggestions).

BLI Schedule Contents

4.5.7 The designated BLIs are listed in Appendix A grouped by LDP spatial area and electoral ward. The full BLI Schedule including details for each individual building are in a separate document (The Schedule of Buildings of Local Importance ⁽⁹⁾). For each building/historic asset, the Schedule gives the building address and location (including a plan indicating the extent of the designation); a description and photograph; the BLI selection criteria that are applicable; the justification for inclusion; and additional notes. These elements are explained in more detail below.

Building/Historic Asset Location

4.5.8 The list entries are arranged by electoral ward and give the postal address, grid reference and a location plan which indicates the extent of the designation (i.e. the area edged red). The terms of Policy BE2 will be applicable to the buildings/structures within this area.

Building/Historic Asset Description

4.5.9 The description of the BLI includes any special characteristics or additional features (such as railings/gates etc.) that should be taken account of when applying Policy BE2. The accompanying photo is a recent image showing the building/asset as at the time of

⁸ Managing Lists of Historic Assets of Special Local Interest in Wales (Cadw 2017)

⁹ Schedule of Buildings of Local Importance

its inclusion in the BLI list. The management objectives for each building/asset should be taken to be the conservation and maintenance as far as practicable of the building as described and any features specifically mentioned here.

Selection Criteria

4.5.10 Underneath the building photograph is a table giving the BLI selection criteria with an indication of which of the criteria are met by the building/asset.

Justification for Consideration

4.5.11 The justification section seeks to explain further the features of the building/asset that have led to its designation, expanding on the selection criteria above. This information will also be taken into account when applying Policy BE2.

Notes

4.5.12 Other available information about the building/asset and any references or information sources are given in the notes section. In a number of cases, buildings/assets are included in *Coflein* (the database for the National Monuments Record of Wales)⁽¹⁰⁾ and where available information from Coflein is included in this section.

Application of Policy BE2

- **4.5.13** Policy BE2 (refer to Section 3.2) comes into effect when developments or changes are proposed that *require planning permission* under current regulations (it does not mean that any additional permission would have to be sought for changes that currently do not require it). The policy requires proposals that would affect a BLI to *conserve and where appropriate enhance* the building and its setting. This does not rule out change, such as alterations, extensions, changes of use and so on, but indicates that the Council will seek to conserve the character of the building or historic asset whenever possible.
- **4.5.14** Flexibility is provided by the second part of the policy which indicates that if the development is not possible without adversely affecting the building's character, it could still be permitted if *the reasons for the development are shown to outweigh the heritage importance of the site*. These policy requirements are examined in more detail below.

Policy BE2 Criterion 1: Conserving and Enhancing a BLI and its setting

4.5.15 Detailed advice on building conservation is widely available from a variety of sources. Cadw have issued guidance relating to listed buildings that gives useful general advice applicable to any building⁽¹¹⁾. In applying Policy BE2, the specific matters set out below will be addressed when planning applications affecting BLIs are being considered by the Council, and should be taken into account in drawing up proposals that would affect a BLI.

¹⁰ http://coflein.gov.uk/en

- **4.5.16 Building Character** the BLI list entry for the building gives an indication of the important aspects of its overall character and significance and can be a useful starting point to developing an understanding of what makes the building important and how this can be conserved when alterations are being planned.
- **4.5.17 Building Style and Form** the proportions of the building, the layout, spacing and design of its major elements such as windows, doors, porches and chimneys are fundamental aspects of its character. Removal or replacement of any element or unsympathetic additions can be detrimental to a building's special character. New additions such as extensions should not dominate the existing building form.
- **4.5.18 Architectural Detail** particular attention should be paid to retaining and conserving any features specifically referred to in the BLI list description wherever possible. Any such features or detailing can be important to the overall character of the building and can be important clues about its history. The removal or replacement of such features and details can have a very significant impact on the building's overall appearance and should be avoided wherever possible.
- **4.5.19 Materials** repairs, renewal and replacement of parts of a building are aspects of normal necessary maintenance, for example re-roofing or re-rendering. The materials used for such maintenance should be visually and physically compatible with the existing fabric, respecting the performance characteristics of the building.
- **4.5.20 Demolition** BLI designation does not in itself give any extra controls over demolition, but the demolition of significant or important parts of any BLI should be avoided. It should be recognised however, that where any BLI has fallen into such disrepair where there is a health and safety issue and/or danger of collapse, demolition may be the only feasible option. Where a building is no longer suitable for its existing or former use, sympathetic additions and alterations to allow its continued occupation or use for alternative purposes will be encouraged. Where a site occupied by a BLI is to be redeveloped, every effort should be made to retain the BLI itself as part of the new scheme (through change of use or conversion) as far as possible.
- **4.5.21 Adaptation and Modernisation** bringing a building up to modern standards and making it suitable for occupation and use in the 21st Century will often involve significant change. Important examples of this are improving energy efficiency and ensuring that a building is fully accessible. In relation to energy efficiency, it is important to ensure that the materials used are technically appropriate for a historic building and that adequate ventilation is maintained. Measures appropriate for modern buildings will not always be suitable for older structures. Specialist advice may be required to ensure that alterations are sympathetic to both the appearance and performance of traditional buildings. Ensuring that a building is accessible to all can also pose challenges when applied to traditional buildings, and innovative solutions may be required in order to maintain a building's character. However, BLI designation is not intended to prevent adaptation and where changes are necessary to enable the reuse of the building it may be necessary to accept some adverse effects on character under criterion 2 of the policy.

4.5.22 Building Setting - Policy BE2 refers not only to the designated BLI, but also to its setting. The extent and nature of the setting of a BLI will depend not only on the type, size and prominence of the BLI itself but also its location or context (e.g. whether it is in a town centre or on a more isolated site). Every BLI has a distinct individual context and unsympathetic new development within a building's setting can destroy this context and a significant part of the building's historic or cultural value or meaning. Where new development is proposed anywhere near to a BLI, the setting of the building should be given consideration and efforts made to ensure that the new changes do not dominate or overwhelm the BLI or divorce it from its context.

4.5.23 Further information on design matters is available from TAN12 (Design)⁽¹²⁾ and the Design SPG⁽¹³⁾.

Policy BE2 Criterion 2: Reasons for development that outweigh the heritage importance of the site

- **4.5.24** Where a development is proposed that adversely affects a BLI and is contrary to criterion 1 of Policy BE2, it may still be acceptable provided it is shown to comply with the terms of criterion 2 of the policy.
- **4.5.25** BE2(2) has two elements. Firstly, it must be demonstrated that there is no way of undertaking the development without having adverse effects on the BLI or its setting. This will involve showing that there is no reasonable way of redesigning the scheme to avoid the adverse effects or to incorporate or reuse BLI as part of the proposal. This will need to be clearly demonstrated and not just asserted (i.e. clear evidence will be required to show that such alternatives would not be possible and/or viable).
- **4.5.26** The second element of criterion 2 requires the reasons (or benefits) of a development to be weighed against the heritage importance of the site. This means that there is a requirement to show what the economic and/or social benefits of the proposal would be (in particular for the wider community) and to demonstrate that these benefits would outweigh the loss of the site's heritage value (set out in the BLI list). Additional information about the history or current condition of the building or site may also be relevant, for example evidence to show that changes to the building/heritage asset since the adoption of the BLI list mean that its heritage interest has been lost or compromised.
- **4.5.27** If these points can clearly be demonstrated, development proposals that adversely affect a BLI may be permitted, subject to other planning considerations.

4.6 Neath Port Talbot Canal Network

Background

4.6.1 Neath Port Talbot's canals were first built in the late 18th Century for the transportation of minerals and produce enabling the early development and expansion of industry in the Swansea and Neath valleys. There are three principal canals in Neath Port

¹² Technical Advice Note 12 Design (2016)

¹³ Design Supplementary Planning Guidance (2017)

Talbot: The Neath Canal extends for some 13 miles from Briton Ferry up the Vale of Neath to Glynneath; the Tennant Canal is some 8 miles in length running from Port Tennant near Swansea docks to link with the Neath Canal at Aberdulais; and the Swansea Canal originally linked Swansea with Abercraf, running up the Swansea Valley through Pontardawe and Ystalyfera.

- **4.6.2** In addition to the three main canals there were a number of relatively short branch canals providing links to collieries and other industrial sites. Most of these are not now extant, but it is still possible to identify the course of the Glan y Wern Canal running through Crymlyn Bog linking to the Tennant Canal.
- **4.6.3** In addition to their historic interest, the canals still have significant roles to play in providing water supplies to local industries, providing recreation and leisure and active travel facilities (particularly as walking and cycling routes) and for biodiversity: a wide range of biodiversity designations apply to the canals, all of which are recognised as Sites of Interest for Nature Conservation (SINCs), with some stretches also being part of nationally and internationally designated areas, for example the Tennant Canal forms part of the Crymlyn Bog and Pant y Sais Fen Special Area for Conservation and Ramsar Site.

Current Status of the Canals

Swansea Canal

- **4.6.4** The line of the lower part of the Swansea Canal (between Swansea Docks and Trebanos) is within the City and County of Swansea administrative area, while the upper reaches are in Powys. Within Neath Port Talbot the canal is partly extant and in water (with some stretches that have seen significant restoration works) and partly abandoned or infilled. Some lengths of the canal within NPT have been built over or destroyed, mainly as a result of the construction of new or widened/improved roads. However, there are proposals to restore sections of the canal, and Swansea Canal Society is currently undertaking restoration works.
- **4.6.5** From the County Borough boundary at Trebanos to the southern end of the playing fields, the canal is extant and in water, including locks and overbridges. Through the playing fields up to the bypass road (A474) at Pontardawe town centre it has been infilled and is largely not visible. Through Pontardawe town centre and up to Ynysmeudwy it has been restored, including bridges, aqueducts and locks with the towpath providing a popular recreational route and the canal making an important contribution to the character and attractiveness of the town.
- **4.6.6** After the modern road bridge at Ynysmeudwy, the next stretch of the canal forms part of a nature reserve and has not been restored but remains extant, with bridges and locks in situ as far as Godre'r Graig (Gnoll Road). From this point up to Pantteg/Ystalyfera, the canal line has been significantly affected by road widening and straightening, and much of the canal has been destroyed although some locks and a former boatyard remain.
- **4.6.7** From Pantteg to the County Borough boundary where the canal aqueduct crosses the River Twrch adjacent to the A4067, there is little obvious remaining of the canal and a significant part has been destroyed by the construction of the bypass road.

4.6.8 A number of remaining features associated with the canal including bridges and locks are protected by statutory designations (as listed buildings or scheduled monuments). Significant canal features and buildings that are not protected in this way have been designated as BLIs (refer below).

Tennant Canal

- **4.6.9** The first part of the Tennant Canal route from Swansea Docks to the County Borough boundary lies within the City and County of Swansea. From the boundary the canal is maintained in water following the edge of Crymlyn Bog to Jersey Marine including the junction with the Glan y Wern branch canal.
- **4.6.10** After the B4290 road bridge at Jersey Marine the canal passes through Pant y Sais Fen before passing Neath Abbey Wharf and Neath Abbey ruins and going close to Neath town centre alongside the River Neath to Aberdulais.
- **4.6.11** At Aberdulais, the canal crosses the river Neath on a stone aqueduct (currently not in water) before joining the Neath Canal at a canal basin. Again, a significant number of structures along the canal are Listed Buildings, with a section of canal at Neath Abbey designated as a Scheduled Monument. Significant features that are not currently protected have been designated as BLI (refer below).

Neath Canal

- **4.6.12** The Neath Canal is maintained in water from Briton Ferry adjacent to wharfs on the River Neath, past Giants Grave and Milland Road industrial area to Neath town centre and then on to Tonna and Aberdulais. Improvements have been made in recent years to accessibility allowing the use of the tow path for walking and cycling along these stretches of the canal. At Tonna, significant restoration work was undertaken some years ago on the canal depot which is designated a Conservation Area (refer to Section 4.3 above).
- **4.6.13** After the junction with the Tennant Canal at Aberdulais, the Neath Canal continues in water up the valley, passing Clyne, where a pair of locks and associated structures have been restored in recent years, crossing the River Neath at Ynys Bwllog on a modern replacement aqueduct, and continuing in water as far as a pair of disused locks near to Abergarwed.
- **4.6.14** There is a stretch of canal infilled at Abergarwed, followed by a stretch along side the B4242 Neath Road which is derelict, including a lock near to the Farmers Arms Public House. The link road to the A465 dual carriageway at Resolven severs this part of the canal from the stretch between Resolven and Aberpergwm, which has been restored (including a number of locks and bridges) and is in water.
- **4.6.15** At Aberpergwm, road improvements have again severed the line of the canal and the final stretch to Glynneath is largely derelict. The final length of canal has been lost under the embankment for a former stretch of the A465 dual carriageway.

LDP Policy

4.6.16 LDP Policies BE2 and BE3 (refer to Section 3.2 above) are both specifically relevant to the heritage value of the County Borough's canals. The policies have the aim of conserving and enhancing the significant features of the canals where possible through the planning system, with Policy BE3 specifically aiming to safeguard the canal routes from development that could prejudice their use or reinstatement.

Application of Policy BE2

4.6.17 As outlined above, a number of structures along the canals are either Listed Buildings or Scheduled Monuments, and any proposed alterations to any of these structures will require the relevant consents (refer to Section 4). The majority of the remaining canal structures that are not already protected in this way have been designated as BLIs, and LDP Policy BE2 will therefore be applied when dealing with any planning applications that could affect these structures. Policy BE2 will be applied to the designated canal structures in the same way as for other types of BLI as set out above.

Application of Policy BE3

- **4.6.18** Policy BE3 specifically relates to the canal network, and aims to safeguard the canal routes. Criterion 1 of the policy identifies the lengths of canal that are still substantially in existence (also identified on the LDP Proposals Map) and sets out restrictions on development that would prejudice the conservation, restoration and operation of these lengths. The policy refers to the setting of the canals and their use for recreational and water supply purposes.
- **4.6.19** Any proposal for development near to the identified lengths of canal will therefore need to consider its possible impacts on the canal including the effects it will have on the canal's setting and therefore on its character and appearance in that locality. In relevant cases, additional information should be submitted with the planning application to explain how the canal has been taken into account in the design and layout of the development, and to show how the development will relate to the canal.
- **4.6.20** Criterion 2 of the policy applies to remaining parts of the canal network that may have been infilled or abandoned, but where there remains the possibility of future reinstatement. If development is proposed in these areas, it should be designed and laid out to ensure that sufficient space is retained to reinstate the canal along its historic alignment or an agreed revised alignment, and that no buildings, permanent structures or access roads are proposed that do not take this into account. The precise requirements will depend on the circumstances of the site concerned and it is recommended that developers instigate pre-application discussions with the Planning Department at an early stage ⁽¹⁴⁾.

Canals Lists

4.6.21 The canal structures that are designated as BLIs are listed in Appendix B, with lists for each of the three main canals. The full schedule of protected structures (including Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments) for each canal is contained in a separate document (The Schedule of Designated Canal Structures (15)). This is set out in a similar way to the Schedule of Buildings of Local Importance, but includes scheduled and listed structures as well as BLIs, in the interests of clarity.

Appendix A: Schedule of Buildings of Local Importance

The BLIs are listed in the tables below by electoral ward, grouped into the eight LDP Spatial Areas. BLIs associated with the Swansea, Tennant and Neath canals are listed separately in Appendix B. The full schedules giving details of each BLI are in a separate document (16).

[Note: Information quoted from Coflein is Crown Copyright: Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, and should not be used for any commercial purpose].

Afan Valley

Cymmer

Ref:	Name	Address	Settlement
CYM002	Former Brynsiriol Senior Citizens Centre	Station Road	Cymmer
CYM003	Former HSBC Bank	Station Road	Cymmer
CYM004	Ty Sant John	Station Road	Cymmer
CYM005	Former Railway Station Refreshment Rooms	Station Road	Cymmer
CYM006	United Free Methodist Church	Brytwn Road	Cymmer

Glyncorrwg

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
GLC002	Bethel House	Corner of Commercial Street and Melyn Street	Glyncorrwg
GLC003	United Methodist Church and Schoolroom	Bryn Road	Glyncorrwg
GLC004	St. John the Baptist Church	Church Street	Glyncorrwg

Gwynfi

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
GWY001	Capel Salem	Commercial Street	Abergwynfi
GWY003	St. Gabriel's Court	Graig Road	Abergwynfi

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
GWY004	Blaengwynfi Library	Jersey Road	Blaengwynfi
GWY005	Tunnel Hotel	Heol y Nant	Blaengwynfi
GWY006	Community Co-op Store	Jersey Road	Blaengwynfi

Pelenna

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
PEL001	The Colliers Riverside	Efail Fach	Efail Fach
PEL002	Independent Chapel	Efail Fach	Efail Fach
PEL005	Limekiln	Tonmawr Road	Tonmawr

Amman Valley

Gwaun-cae-Gurwen

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
GCG001	Carmel Chapel	Heol Cae Gurwen	Gwaun Cae Gurwen
GCG002	Shops	61 and 63 Heol Cae Gurwen	Gwaun Cae Gurwen
GCG004	St. Mary's Church	Heol Cae Gurwen	Gwaun Cae Gurwen
GCG005	Capel Hermon	Brynamman Road	Gwaun Cae Gurwen
GCG006	Railway Viaducts	Off Heol Cae Gurwen	Gwaun Cae Gurwen

Lower Brynamman

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
LBA001	Siloam Chapel	Amman Road	Lower Brynamman
LBA002	Ebenezer Chapel	Amman Road	Lower Brynamman
LBA003	Brynamman Hotel	27 Amman Road	Lower Brynamman
LBA004	Crown Inn	25 Park Street	Lower Brynamman
LBA005	27 Park Street	27 Park Street	Lower Brynamman
LBA007	St. David's Church	King Edward Road	Tairgwaith

Dulais Valley

Crynant

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
CRY001	Salem Chapel	Brynawel	Crynant
CRY002	St. Margaret's Church	Main Road	Crynant
CRY004	Maes Mawr Bridge	Maes Mawr Road	Crynant
CRY006	Crynant Community Centre	Woodland Road	Crynant
CRY007	Bethel Chapel	School Road	Crynant

Dyffryn Cellwen

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
ONL002	St. David's Church	Main Road	Dyffryn Cellwen
ONL003	Noddfa Chapel	Main Road	Dyffryn Cellwen

Seven Sisters

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
SEV004	Brick Row	1 - 6 High Street	Seven Sisters
SEV007	St. Mary's Church	Church Road	Seven Sisters
SEV008	Bryndulais PH	Church Road	Seven Sisters
SEV009	Footbridge, truck and winding wheels	Recreation Area Church Road	Seven Sisters

Neath

Aberdulais

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
ABD001	Dulais Rock PH	Main Road	Aberdulais
ABD002	Former Wesley Chapel	Canalside	Aberdulais
ABD005	Pisgah Chapel	Main Road	Cilfrew
ABD006	Hermon Chapel	Main Road	Cilfrew
ABD008	Pisgah Vestry	Main Road	Cilfrew

Briton Ferry East

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
BFE001	Former Bank	43 Neath Road	Briton Ferry
BFE002	Jerusalem Baptist Church	Neath Road	Briton Ferry
BFE003	Ferryman PH	Neath Road	Briton Ferry
BFE004	Briton Ferry Workingmen's Club	Neath Road	Briton Ferry
BFE006	Ynysmaerdy Cemetery Chapels	Ynysmaerdy Road	Briton Ferry
BFE007	The Christian Centre	Craig Road	Briton Ferry
BFE009	Church of Our Lady of the Assumption	Neath Road	Briton Ferry
BFE011	Former New Dock Hotel	Villiers Road	Briton Ferry
BFE012	Y Graig Chapel	Neath Road / Ynysmaerdy Road	Briton Ferry
BFE014	Bethesda Congregational Church	Cwrt Sart	Briton Ferry
BFE018	Former Post Office	Neath Road	Briton Ferry
BFE019	Leigh's Barbers Shop	177 Neath Road	Briton Ferry
BFE020	Horse Trough	Adj. Car Wash Neath Road	Briton Ferry

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
BFE021	English Independent Chapel Vestry	Thomas Street	Briton Ferry
BFE022	Briton Ferry Little Theatre	Neath Road	Briton Ferry

Briton Ferry West

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
BFW003	Barn Cottages	1 - 5 Barn Cottages, Shelone Road	Briton Ferry
BFW006	Former St. John the Baptist Church	50A Giants Grave Road	Briton Ferry

Bryncoch North

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
BRN002	Saron Chapel	Main Road	Bryncoch

Bryncoch South

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
BRS002	Ty'n yr Heol House	Ty'n yr Heol	Bryncoch
BRS004	Neath and Brecon Junction signal box	Neath Abbey Road	Neath

Cadoxton

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
CAD001	The Green Dragon PH	Church Road	Cadoxton
CAD003	War Memorial	Main Road	Cadoxton
CAD004	Crown and Sceptre PH	Main Road	Cadoxton

Coedffranc Central

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
COC002	Calfaria Baptist Church	Stanley Road	Skewen
COC006	Carnegie Hall	Evelyn Road	Skewen

44

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
COC007	Y Capel	Old Road	Skewen
COC008	The Colliers Arms PH	New Road	Skewen

Coedffranc North

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
CON002	Traveller's Well PH	Dynevor Place	Skewen
CON003	Drymmau Hall	Drymmau Road	Skewen
CON004	Free Mission Church	Dynevor Road	Skewen

Coedffranc West

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
COW002	William Knox House	Britannic Way	Coed Darcy
COW003	Gower Chemicals	Baldwins Crescent	Crymlyn Burrows
COW005	Llandarcy Institute	Prettyman Drive	Llandarcy
COW006	Milestone		Llandarcy
COW007	Crymlyn Primary School	School Road	Llandarcy
COW008	Nissen Hut	Serecold Avenue	Skewen

Dyffryn

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
DYF001	Ty Mawr	1 - 5 New Road	Neath Abbey
DYF002	Glynfelin Lodge	Longford Road	Neath Abbey
DYF003	Swiss Cottage	Longford Road	Neath Abbey
DYF005	Abbey Primary School	New Road	Neath Abbey
DYF006	Front Lodge	Dyffryn Road	Dyffryn

Neath East

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
NTE002	Dark Arch Tunnel	The Rope Walk	Neath

45

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
NTE003	Ebenezer Baptist Church	Briton Ferry Road	Neath
NTE006	English Presbyterian Church in Wales	London Road	Neath
NTE008	Neath Methodist Church	Briton Ferry Road	Neath
NTE012	Siloh Chapel	Old Road	Melin
NTE013	Melincryddan Community Centre	Old Road	Melin
NTE014	Siloh Fach	Dan y Graig Road	Melin
NTE015	Bethel Elim Chapel	Briton Ferry Road	Melin

Neath North

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
NTN001	Warehouse	Croft Road	Neath
NTN006	Lletty Nedd	1 - 4 Lletty Nedd, Pen y Dre	Neath
NTN008	The Greyhound PH	Water Street	Neath
NTN010	Llantwit Cemetery Chapel	Fairyland Road	Neath
NTN011	Zoar Chapel	Bridge Street	Neath
NTN014	Chapel	High Street	Neath
NTN015	Neath Mission Hall	High Street	Neath
NTN017	Orchard Place Baptist Church	Orchard Street	Neath
NTN018	Castle Hotel	The Parade	Neath
NTN019	Castell Nedd Arms	Angel Street	Neath
NTN020	1 Orchard Street and 1 Wind Street	Wind St/ Orchard St.	Neath
NTN021	David Protheroe PH	7 Windsor Road	Neath
NTN022	The Big Cam PH	9 Windsor Road	Neath
NTN023	Prudential Chambers	11 The Parade	Neath
NTN024	Alderman Davies School	St. David's Street	Neath
NTN025	1 - 3 Church Place	1 - 3 Church Place	Neath

Neath South

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
NTS001	St. Peter and St. Paul Church	Cimla Road	Cimla
NTS003	The Laurels	Lewis Road	Neath
NTS005	St. Joseph's RC Church	Cook Rees Avenue	Neath

Tonna

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
TON001	Tonna Hospital	Tonna Uchaf	Tonna

Neath Valley

Blaengwrach

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
BLA001	Calfaria Chapel	High Street	Cwmgwrach
BLA002	Wenallt Farm	Heol Wenallt	Cwmgwrach
BLA003	Former Siloh Chapel	Heol Wenallt	Cwmgwrach
BLA004	St. Mary's Church	Blaengwrach	Cwmgwrach

Glynneath

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
GLN002	Lamb and Flag PH	B4242	Glynneath
GLN009	Addoldy Glynneath	Addoldy Road	Glynneath
GLN011	Angel Inn	Pontneathvaughan Road	Pontneddfechan
GLN012	Pentreclwydau Farm pigsty	Glynneath Road	Pentreclwydau
GLN013	Rheola Lodge	Glynneath Road	Rheola
GLN014	Capel y Glyn	Heol y Glyn	Glynneath
GLN016	Bethel Baptist Chapel	High Street	Glynneath
GLN017	Pontneddfechan Bridge	High Street	Pontneddfechan

Resolven

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
RES002	St. David's Church	Neath Road	Resolven
RES004	Resolven War Memorial	Neath Road	Resolven
RES005	Resolven Community Centre	Tan y Rhiw Road	Resolven
RES006	Sardis Baptist Chapel and Church	Commercial Road	Resolven
RES007	Ton House and former Post Office	5,7 & 9 Neath Road	Resolven
RES008	Farmers Arms PH	Glynneath Road	Resolven

Pontardawe

Alltwen

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
ALL001	Alltwen Chapel	Bryn Llewellyn	Alltwen
ALL002	St. John the Baptist Church	Bryn Llewellyn	Alltwen
ALL004	Mount Pleasant and Warehouse/club	The Triangle	Alltwen
ALL005	Church House	Dyffryn Road	Alltwen
ALL007	Dan y Graig Chapel	Edward Street	Alltwen
ALL008	Alltwen Community Centre	Dyffryn Road	Alltwen

Pontardawe

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
PON001	Neuadd Glanrhyd	Glan Rhyd Road	Pontardawe
PON002	Cross Community Centre	High Street/Herbert Street	Pontardawe
PON003	New Church Temple	86 New Road	Ynysmeudwy
PON006	Pontardawe Arts Centre	Herbert Street	Pontardawe
PON007	Pontardawe Library	Holly Street	Pontardawe
PON008	Ivy Bush Hotel	High Street	Pontardawe
PON009	Adulam Baptist Chapel	Swansea Road	Pontardawe
PON010	Pontardawe Police Station	High Street	Pontardawe
PON012	Bethesda Chapel	New Road	Ynysmeudwy
PON014	Soar Presbyterian Church	Holly Street	Pontardawe
PON016	Alltycham Farm	Alltycham Drive	Pontardawe
PON017	Old Brewery	High Street	Pontardawe
PON019	Pontardawe Inn	Off Neath Road	Pontardawe
PON020	Ty Mawr	Ynysderw Road	Pontardawe
PON021	St. Mary's Church	Ynysmeudwy Road	Ynysmeudwy
PON022	21 Holly Street	21 Holly Street	Pontardawe

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
PON023	6 James Street	6 James Street	Pontardawe
PON024	Wesleyan Chapel	James Street	Pontardawe
PON025	57 - 60 Herbert Street	57 - 60 Herbert Street	Pontardawe
PON026	Saron New Chapel	Commercial Road	Pontardawe
PON027	41 - 43 Herbert Street	41 - 43 Herbert Street	Pontardawe
PON028	44 - 46 Herbert Street	44 - 46 Herbert Street	Pontardawe
PON029	46 - 47 Herbert Street	46 - 47 Herbert Street	Pontardawe

Rhos

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
RHO001	Ebenezer Chapel	Neath Road	Rhos
RHO005	Plas Cilybebyll	Cwm Nant Llwyd Road	Rhos
RHO006	Swansea Valley Holiday Cottages	Cwm Nant Llwyd Road	Rhos

Trebanos

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
TRE001	St. Michael and All Angels Church	Swansea Road	Trebanos
TRE002	Capel y Graig	Swansea Road	Trebanos
TRE003	Gosen Chapel	Swansea Road	Trebanos

Port Talbot

Aberafan

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
ABA001	Bethlehem Evangelical Church	Ysguthan Road	Aberafan
ABA002	Salem Church	Sandfields Road	Aberafan
ABA003	St Paul's Church	Pendarvis Terrace	Aberafan
ABA005	Old Fire Station	Water Street	Aberafan
ABA006	Kash Superstore	Bailey Street	Aberafan

Baglan

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
BAG001	Baglan Lodge	Glan Hafren	Baglan
BAG002	St. Baglan's Church and No. 5	Old Road	Baglan
BAG004	The Lodge	32 Lodge Road	Baglan

Bryn & Cwmavon

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
BCA001	Former St John's Church	Oakwood Avenue, Oakwood	Pontrhydyfen
BCA002	Former Pontrhydyfen Primary School	School Street, Oakwood	Pontrhydyfen
BCA004	Rolling Mill PH	Salem Road	Cwmafan
BCA008	Church Hall	School Terrace	Cwmafan
BCA009	Bryn Gurnos	Chapel Terrace	Bryn
BCA010	Royal Oak PH	Maesteg Road	Bryn
BCA011	St. Philip Evans Catholic Church	Salem Road	Cwmafan
BCA012	Rock Independent Chapel	Pwll y Glaw	Cwmafan
BCA013	St. Tydfil's Church	Bryn Eglwys	Bryn
BCA014	British Lion PH	Pwll y Glaw	Cwmafan

Margam

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
MAR002	Pen y Bryn Methodist Chapel	Heol y Glo	Pen y Bryn

Port Talbot

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
POR003	Mission Room	Talbot Road	Port Talbot
POR004	Forest Veterinary premises	Talbot Road	Port Talbot
POR006	Former Lloyds Bank	2 - 4 Station Road	Port Talbot
POR007	Grove House	Grove Place	Port Talbot
POR008	St. Oswald's Chambers	6 Station Road	Port Talbot
POR011	Barclays Bank	48 Station Road	Port Talbot
POR012	Constitutional Club	62 Station Road	Port Talbot
POR013	Former Glan Afan School	Station Road	Port Talbot
POR014	Commercial Buildings	Corner of Talbot Road and Beverley Street	Port Talbot
POR015	Grand Hotel	Talbot Road	Port Talbot
POR016	Romily Buildings	42 Talbot Road	Port Talbot
POR018	Page's DIY	56 Talbot Road	Port Talbot
POR020	Lucania Buildings	1 – 6 Lucania Buildings Talbot Rd/Talcennau Road	Port Talbot
POR021	Eagle House	Talbot Road	Port Talbot
POR022	Grange Street Independent Chapel	Grange Street	Port Talbot
POR023	St. Agnes Church	Forge Road	Port Talbot
POR024	101 and 109 Pen y Cae Road	101 and 109 Pen y Cae Road	Port Talbot
POR025	Riverside Baptist Church	Rear of Station Road	Port Talbot
POR026	Carmel Church	Rear of Station Rd	Port Talbot
POR027	Saron Chapel	Lletty Harri	Port Talbot

Sandfields West

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
SAW001	Sandfields Methodist Church	Western Avenue	Sandfields
SAW003	St. Therese RC Church	Southdown Road	Sandfields

Taibach

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
TAI001	Evangelical Reformed Church	Margam Road	Taibach
TAI002	Our Lady of Margam RC Church	Margam Road	Taibach
TAI003	Ffrwdwyllt House	2 Commercial Road	Taibach
TAI004	Wesley Chapel	Incline Row	Taibach
TAI005	St. David's Church	Ty Fry Road	Taibach
TAI008	Taibach Rugby Club	Commercial Road	Taibach
TAI010	Former Smyrna Chapel	Smyrna Cottages	Taibach
TAI011	40 Commercial Road	40 Commercial Road	Taibach

Swansea Valley

Cwmllynfell

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
CWL001	Former Ysgol Gynradd Rhiwfawr	Rhiw Road	Rhiwfawr
CWL003	St. Margaret's Church	New Road	Cwmllynfell
CWL004	Cwmllynfell Chapel	New Road	Cwmllynfell

Godre'r Graig

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
GOD002	168 Graig Road	168 Graig Road	Godre'r Graig

Ystalyfera

Ref	Name	Address	Settlement
YST001	Gurnos Chapel	Main Road	Ystalyfera
YST002	St. David's Church	St. David's Road	Ystalyfera
YST006	Capel Caer Salem	Cyfyng Road	Ystalyfera
YST007	Wern Fawr Inn	47 Wern Road	Ystalyfera
YST008	45 Wern Road	45 Wern Road	Ystalyfera
YST009	Jerusalem Chapel	Wern Road	Ystalyfera

Appendix B: Canals BLI List

B.1 Swansea Canal

The BLIs associated with the canals are listed in the tables below by electoral ward, in the order in which they occur along each canal. All other BLIs are listed separately in Appendix A. The full schedules giving details of each canal BLI, together with Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments along the canals are in a separate document⁽¹⁷⁾.

[**Note**: Information quoted from Coflein is Crown Copyright: Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, and should not be used for any commercial purpose].

Swansea Canal

Ref:	Name	Address	Settlement			
Trebanos						
SCA001	Trebanos Lock 8, overbridge and Lock 9	The Green	Trebanos			
Pontardawe	Pontardawe					
SCA002	Ynysmeudwy Lower Lock (12) and Lengthman's Hut	Ynysmeudwy Road	Ynysmeudwy			
SCA003	Ynysmeudwy Upper Lock (13)	Ynysmeudwy Road	Ynysmeudwy			
Godre'r Graig						
SCA004	Cilmaengwyn Overbridge	Cilmaengwyn Road	Cilmaengwyn			
SCA005	Cwm Tawe Isaf/ Cilmaengwyn Upper Lock (14)	Cilmaengwyn Road	Cilmaengwyn			
SCA006	Lock 15	Adjacent A4067	Godre'r Graig			
SCA007	Lock 16	Adjacent A4067	Godre'r Graig			
SCA008	Lock 18	Adjacent A4067	Godre'r Graig			
Ystalyfera						
SCA010	High level rock cutting for canal	Rear of Cyffyng Road	Ystalyfera			

Appendix B: . Canals BLI List

B.2 Tennant Canal

Tennant Canal

Ref:	Name	Address	Settlement			
Coedffranc West	Coedffranc West					
TCA001	Railway embankment abutments and two railway overbridges	Pant y Sais	Jersey Marine			
TCA002	Railway overbridge	Adjacent Llandarcy Gas Depot	Llandarcy			
TCA003	Arched railway overbridge	Neath Abbey Wharf	Skewen			
Cadoxton						
TCA004	Railway overbridge	Adjacent A465 dual carriageway	Cadoxton			
TCA005	Canal Overbridge	South west of Bett's Nursery	Cadoxton			

B.3 Neath Canal

Neath Canal

Ref:	Name	Address	Settlement			
Briton Ferry West						
NCA001	Saltings Overbridge	Giants Grave Tip	Briton Ferry			
NCA002	Railway Overbridge	Cwrt Sart	Briton Ferry			
Neath East						
NCA003	Galve Bridge	Milland Road	Melincrythan			
Tonna						
NCA004	Railway Overbridge	Dulais Fach Road	Tonna			
NCA005	Pont y Gwaith Bridge	Off B4434	Tonna			
NCA006	Craig Ynysnedd Lock (Lock 2)	Off B4434	Tonna			
Resolven						
NCA007	Whitworth Lock Overbridge, Whitworth and Gitto Locks (Locks 3 and 4)	Cyd Terrace	Clyne			
Aberdulais						
NCA008	Ynysbwllog Bridge	Ynysbwllog Farm	Ynysbwllog			

Appendix B: . Canals BLI List

Ref:	Name	Address	Settlement				
Resolven							
NCA009	Ynysarwed Lock South (Lock 5)	Edwards Terrace	Abergarwed				
NCA010	Ynysarwed Lock North (Lock 6)	Abergarwed	Abergarwed				
NCA011	Farmers Lock (Lock 7)	Off B4242	Resolven				
NCA012	Resolven Lock (Lock 8)	South of B4242	Resolven				
NCA013	Ty Banc	South of B4242	Resolven				
Glynneath							
NCA014	Crugau Lock (Lock 9)	South of B4242	Rheola				
NCA015	Rheola Lock (Lock 10)	South of B4242	Rheola				
NCA016	Canal Aqueduct over Rheola Brook	South of B4242	Rheola				
NCA017	Ynys yr Allor Lock (Lock 12)	Ynys yr Allor	Pentreclwydau				
NCA018	Maes Gwyn Lock (Lock 13)	Maes Gwyn	Pentreclwydau				
NCA019	Pwllfaron Lock (Lock 14)	Pwllfaron	Aberpergwm				
NCA020	Granary Lock (Lock 15)	Adjacent to B4242 north of Ysgwrfa Bridge	Aberpergwm				
NCA021	Chain Lock (Lock 16)	Opposite Chain Road	Aberpergwm				
NCA022	Fox's Lock (Lock 17)	North of B4242 adjacent to Manor Road bridge/gateway	Aberpergwm				

Appendix B: . Canals BLI List

Appendix C: . Procedure for Identifying BLIs

Appendix C: Procedure for Identifying BLIs

Exclude all:

- Listed Buildings
- Scheduled Monuments

Examples of types of Building/Structure to be assessed:

- Churches and Chapels
- Pubs
- Halls
- Libraries and other public buildings
- War memorials, statues, fountains etc.
- Traditional shops/shopfronts
- Industrial heritage, railway/tramway structures, canal structures etc.
- Distinctive/important examples of local building types and styles

Qualifying Characteristics

LDP Policy BE2 defines BLIs as '...buildings that are of local historic, architectural or cultural importance'. The supporting text for the policy states:

'Buildings may be significant for architectural reasons, giving character and sense of place to local centres and settlements, or may be of particular local historic or cultural importance'.

Criteria for Selection⁽¹⁸⁾

In order to qualify for designation as a BLI, a building has to meet at least three of the five selection criteria listed below. The criteria that the building is considered to meet are shown on the draft BLI schedule entry. The selection criteria are:

- 1. **Architectural Interest** Buildings and structures which are of importance to Neath Port Talbot for the interest of their architectural design, decoration and craftsmanship; also important examples of particular building types and techniques.
- 2. **Historic Interest** Buildings and structures which illustrate significant aspects of Neath Port Talbot's social, economic, cultural or military history.
- 3. **Historical or Cultural Association** Association with the community's important people or events or having had an important role in the cultural life or development of the community.

Appendix C: . Procedure for Identifying BLIs

- 4. **Group/Settlement Character Value** Where local buildings comprise an important architectural or historic unity or make an important contribution to the character of a settlement.
- 5. **Old or Rare Local Buildings** Buildings/structures that may have been altered too much to warrant being included on the national statutory list but are of a rare type locally or retain historic character or interest.





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