



**Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda  
Cynon Taf**

# **Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiedig: Strategaeth a Ffefrir**

## **Adroddiad Sgrinio yr Asesiad Rheoliadau Cynefinoedd**

**Adroddiad terfynol**  
Ionawr 2024

# Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf

## Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiedig: Strategaeth a Ffefrir

### Adroddiad Sgrinio - Asesiad Rheoliadau Cynefinoedd

Rhif y Prosiect  
11226

Fersiwn	Statws	Barod	Gwirio	Cymeradwyo	Dyddiad
1.	Adroddiad Sgrinio HRA Drafft	R. Chavan J. Bernard	R. Turner	K. Nicholls	10.01.2024
2.	Adroddiad Sgrinio Terfynol HRA	R. Chavan J. Bernard	R. Turner	K. Nicholls	17.01.2024

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# Cynnwys

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Aflonyddwch anghorfforol – cynefin swyddogaethol gysylltiedig

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Halogiad nad yw'n wenwynig – cynefin swyddogaethol gysylltiedig

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Nifer y dŵr

Ansawdd Dŵr

Crynodeb o'r Asesiad Sgrinio

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Y camau nesaf

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##### **Map o Ffyrdd Strategol o fewn 200m i safleoedd Ewropeaidd**

## **Pennod 1**

### **Cyflwyniad**

**1.1** Comisiynwyd LUC gan Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf (y cyfeirir ati yma wedi hyn fel 'y Cyngor') i gynnal **Asesiad Rheoliadau Cynefinoedd (HRA)** mewn perthynas â Chynllun Datblygu Lleol (CDLI) Diwygiedig Rhondda Cynon Taf (RhCT) 2022-2037. Mae Asesiad Sgrinio o'r Strategaeth a Ffeirir gan CDLI wedi'i gynnal a'i gyflwyno yn yr adroddiad hwn. Paratowyd Adroddiad Cwmpasu HRA yn flaenorol gan LUC ym mis Tachwedd 2020 ac yn amodol ar ymgynghori. Mae'r adroddiad hwnnw a chanlyniadau'r ymgynghoriad wedi llywio paratoi'r adroddiad Sgrinio hwn.

**1.2** Diben cam Sgrinio'r or HRA yw nodi pa safleoedd Ewropeaidd sydd â'r potensial i gael eu heffeithio gan y CDLI Diwygiedig, coladu gwybodaeth ar y safleoedd hyn, amlinellu'r llwybrau y gellid eu heffeithio, a nodi'r gofynion ar gyfer unrhyw Asesiad Priodol diilynol. Bydd yr Asesiad Priodol yn cael ei gynnal yn y cam Adnau, unwaith y bydd y CDLI Diwygiedig ar gam mwy datblygedig.

## Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Diwygiedig

**1.3** Mabwysiadodd y Cyngor ei CDLI presennol ym mis Mawrth 2011, a oedd yn nodi'r strategaeth gynllunio ar gyfer y Fwrdeistref Sirol (ac eithrio'r Parc Cenedlaethol) hyd at 2021. Mae'r Cyngor bellach yn gweithio ar ddiwygio'r CDLI, yn dilyn paratoi Adroddiad Adolygu ar y CDLI mabwysiedig ym mis Tachwedd 2019. Mae'r Cyngor yn dilyn y weithdrefn adolygu lawn fel y nodir yn y Rheoliadau CDLI<sup>1</sup> a Llawlyfr y Cynlluniau Datblygu<sup>2</sup>.

**1.4** Roedd y Cytundeb Cyflawni ar gyfer y CDLI Diwygiedig i fod i gael ei gyflwyno i Lywodraeth Cymru i'w gymeradwyo ym mis Mehefin 2020; fodd bynnag, cafodd hyn ei ohirio gan bandemig y Coronafeirws. Cafodd y Cytundeb Cyflawni ei gymeradwyo'n ffurfiol gan Lywodraeth Cymru ym mis Medi 2020. O'r amser hwnnw, dechreuodd y Cyngor baratoi Adolygiad cychwynnol o'r CDLI a fyddai wedi bod ar gyfer Cyfnod y Cynllun 2020-2030. Penderfynwyd ym mis Mawrth 2022 i roi'r gorau i'r holl waith ar y CDLI Diwygiedig hwn a dechrau gweithio ar CDLI Diwygiedig newydd ar gyfer Cyfnod y Cynllun 2022 – 2037. Cafodd y Cytundeb Cyflawni ar gyfer y CDLI Diwygiedig 2022-2037 ei gymeradwyo'n ffurfiol gan Lywodraeth Cymru ym mis Ebrill 2022.

**1.5** Bydd y CDLI Diwygiedig yn cynnwys Gweledigaeth ac Amcanion ar gyfer ardal y Cynllun, strategaeth gyffredinol ar gyfer datblygu o fewn RhCT, dyraniadau safle ar gyfer gwahanol fathau o ddatblygiad, gan gynnwys tai a chyfflogaeth, a pholisïau arddull rheoli datblygu ar gyfer rheoli ceisiadau sy'n dod ymlaen. Fel gyda'r CDLI mabwysiedig, ni fydd y CDLI Diwygiedig yn cwmpasu'r rhannau o RhCT sy'n gorwedd o fewn y Parc Cenedlaethol. Mae'r ddogfen ymgynghori Strategaeth a Ffeirir gyfredol yn cynnwys Gweledigaeth ac Amcanion, y Strategaeth a Ffeirir (sy'n nodi faint a dosbarthiad y datblygiad gan gynnwys pedwar Safle Allweddol Arfaethedig) a naw polisi strategol.

## Y gofyniad i gynnal Asesiad Rheoliadau Cynefinoedd (HRA) o Gynlluniau Datblygu

**1.6** Cadarnhawyd y gofyniad i ymgymryd â HRA o gynlluniau datblygu gan y diwygiadau i'r Rheoliadau Cynefinoedd a gyhoeddwyd ar gyfer Cymru a Lloegr yn 2007<sup>3</sup>; y fersiwn sy'n gymwys ar hyn o bryd yw Rheoliadau Cynefinoedd 2017, fel y'u diwygiwyd<sup>4</sup>. Wrth baratoi'r cynlluniau datblygu, mae'n ofynnol yn ôl y gyfraith i'r Cyngor gyflawni HRA. Gall y Cyngor gomisiynu ymgynghorwyr i ymgymryd â gwaith HRA ar ei ran ac yna adroddir ar hyn (y gwaith a gofnodir yn yr adroddiad hwn) i'r Cyngor a'i ystyried fel yr 'awdurdod cymwys'. Bydd y Cyngor yn ystyried y gwaith hwn ac fel arfer dim ond os yw'n ystyried na fydd y Cynllun yn effeithio'n andwyol ar gyfarwydd<sup>5</sup> unrhyw 'safle Ewropeaidd', fel y'i diffinnir isod (yr eithriad i hyn fyddai lle gellir dangos 'rhesymau hanfodol dros fudd y cyhoedd'; gweler **Pennod 3**). Nodir y gofyniad i awdurdodau gydymffurfio â'r Rheoliadau Cynefinoedd wrth baratoi Cynllun hefyd yn Llawlyfr Cynlluniau Datblygu Llywodraeth Cymru.

**1.7** Mae HRA yn cyfeirio at asesu effeithiau posibl cynllun datblygu ar un neu fwy o safleoedd a roddir i'r lefel uchaf o ddiogelwch yn y DU: **Ardaloedd Gwarchodaeth Arbenning (AGA) ac Ardaloedd Cadwraeth Arbenning (ACA)**. Dosbarthwyd y rhain o dan ddeddfwriaeth yr Undeb Ewropeaidd (UE) ond ers 1 Ionawr 2021 maent wedi'u diogelu yn y DU gan Rheoliadau Cynefinoedd 2017 (fel y'u diwygiwyd). Er nad yw Cyfarwyddbau'r UE y mae Rheoliadau Cynefinoedd y DU yn deillio ohonynt yn wreiddiol yn rhwymol mwyach, mae'r Rheoliadau yn dal i gyfeirio at y rhestrau o gynefinoedd a rhywogaethau y dynodwyd y safleoedd ar eu cyfer, sydd wedi'u rhestru mewn atodiadau i Gyfarwydddeb yr UE:

<sup>1</sup> Rheoliadau Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref (Cynllun Datblygu Lleol) (Cymru) 2005.

<sup>2</sup> Llawlyfr Cynlluniau Datblygu Llywodraeth Cymru (Mawrth 2020) (Argraffiad 3).

<sup>3</sup> Y Gwarchodaeth (Cynefinoedd Naturiol & c.) (Diwygiad) Rheoliadau 2007 (2007) Rhif OS 2007/1843. TSO (The Stationery Office), Llundain.

<sup>4</sup> Rheoliadau Cadwraeth Cynefinoedd a Rhywogaethau 2017 (2017) Rhif OS 2017/1012, fel y'u diwygiwyd gan Rheoliadau Gwarchod Cynefinoedd a Rhywogaethau (Diwygio) (Gadael yr UE) 2019 (OS 2019/579).

<sup>5</sup> Cyfarwydd safle yw cydlynad ei strwythur a'i swyddogaeth ecolegol, ar draws ei ardal gyfan, sy'n ei alluogi i gynnal cynefin, cymhleth cynefinoedd a/neu lefelau poblogaethau'r rhywogaethau y cafodd eu dynodi ar eu cyfer. (Ffynhonnell: Canllawiau Ymarfer Cynllunio Llywodraeth y DU)

- Dynodwyd ACA ar gyfer mathau penodol o gynefinoedd (a bennir yn Atodiad 1 o Gyfarwyddeb Cynefinoedd yr UE<sup>6</sup>) a rhywogaethau (Atodiad II). Y mathau o gynefinoedd a rhywogaethau rhestredig (ac eithrio adar) yw'r rhai yr ystyrir eu bod fwyaf angen cadwraeth ar lefel Ewropeaidd. Cyn diwrnod gadael yr UE, roedd dynodiad ACA hefyd yn ystyried cydlyniad rhwydwaith 'Natura 2000' o safleoedd Ewropeaidd. Ar ôl diwrnod gadael yr UE, rhoddir ystyriaeth i bwysigrwydd safleoedd o'r fath ar gyfer cydlynu 'rhwydwaith safleoedd cenedlaethol' y DU.
- Mae AGA yn cael eu dosbarthu ar gyfer adar prin a bregus (Atodiad I o Gyfarwyddeb Adar yr UE<sup>7</sup>), ac ar gyfer rhywogaethau mudol sy'n digwydd yn rheolaidd nad ydynt wedi'u rhestru yn Atodiad I.

**1.8** Defnyddiwyd y term 'safleoedd Ewropeaidd' yn gyffredin yn HRA i gyfeirio at safleoedd 'Natura 2000'<sup>8</sup> a safleoedd Ramsar (a ddynodwyd yn rhyngwladol o dan Gonfensiwn Ramsar). Fodd bynnag, mae Papur Polisi'r Llywodraeth<sup>9</sup> ar newidiadau i Reoliadau Cynefinoedd 2017 ar ôl Brexit yn nodi:

- Mae unrhyw gyfeiriadau at Natura 2000 yn Rheoliadau 2017 ac mewn canllawiau bellach yn cyfeirio at y 'rhwydwaith safleoedd cenedlaethol' newydd.
- Mae'r rhwydwaith safleoedd cenedlaethol yn cynnwys ACA ac AGA presennol; a ACA ac AGA newydd a ddynodir o dan y Rheoliadau hyn.
- Nid yw Gwlyptiroedd Dynodedig o Bwysigrwydd Rhyngwladol (a elwir yn safleoedd Ramsar) yn rhan o'r rhwydwaith safleoedd cenedlaethol. Mae llawer o safleoedd Ramsar yn gorgyffwrdd â SACs ac AGA a gellir eu dynodi ar gyfer yr un rhywogaeth neu wahanol a chynefinoedd.

**1.9** Er nad yw safleoedd Ramsar yn rhan o'r rhwydwaith safleoedd cenedlaethol newydd, mae canllawiau'r Llywodraeth ar gyfer Cymru a Lloegr<sup>10</sup> yn nodi:

*"Byddai unrhyw gynigion sy'n effeithio ar y safleoedd canlynol hefyd yn gofyn am HRA oherwydd bod y rhain yn cael eu diogelu gan bolisi'r llywodraeth:*

- ACA arfaethedig
- AGA posibl
- Safleoedd Ramsar - gwlyptiroedd o bwysigrwydd rhyngwladol (rhestredig a chynigir)
- ardaloedd sydd wedi'u diogelu wrth i safleoedd wneud iawn am ddifrod i safle Ewropeaidd."

**1.10** Ar hyn o bryd mae canllawiau ymarfer yn <sup>11</sup> nodi y dylai awdurdodau cymwys sy'n gyfrifol am gynnal HRA drin safleoedd Ramsar yn yr un modd ag ACA ac AGA. Nid yw'r gofyniad deddfwriaethol ar gyfer HRA yn berthnasol i safleoedd bywyd gwyllt eraill sydd wedi'u dynodi'n genedlaethol, megis Safleoedd o Ddiddordeb Gwyddonol Arbennig neu Warchodfeydd Natur Cenedlaethol.

**1.11** Er symlrwydd, mae'r adroddiad hwn yn defnyddio'r term 'safle Ewropeaidd' i gyfeirio at bob math o safle dynodedig y mae angen HRA ar ei gyfer<sup>12</sup>.

**1.12** Diben cyffredinol HRA yw dod i'r casgliad a fyddai cynnig neu bolisi, neu gynllun datblygu cyfan yn effeithio'n andwyol ar gyfanrwydd y safle Ewropeaidd dan sylw, ai peidio. Caiff hyn ei farnu o ran goblygiadau'r cynllun ar gyfer 'nodweddion cymwys' safle (h.y. y cynefinoedd Atodiad I hynny, rhywogaethau Atodiad II, a phoblogaethau adar Atodiad I y mae wedi'u dynodi ar eu

<sup>6</sup> Cyfarwyddeb 92/43/EEC 21 Mai 1992 ar warchod cynefinoedd naturiol a ffawna gwyllt a fflora (y Gyfarwyddeb Cynefinoedd)

<sup>7</sup> Cyfarwyddeb 2009/147/EC ar gadwraeth adar gwyllt (y Gyfarwyddeb Adar)

<sup>8</sup> Y rhwydwaith o ardaloedd gwarchoddedig a nodwyd gan yr UE: [https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/index\\_en.htm](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/index_en.htm)

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/changes-to-the-habitats-regulations-2017/changes-to-the-habitats-regulations-2017>

<sup>10</sup> Defra, Natural England, Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru a Llywodraeth Cymru (2021) Canllawiau - Asesiadau rheoliadau cynefinoedd: diogelu safle Ewropeaidd, <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/habitats-regulations-assessments-protecting-a-european-site>

<sup>11</sup> Llawlyfr HRA, Adran A3. David Tyllesley & Associates, dogfen ganllaw ar-lein sy'n seiliedig ar danysgrifiad:

<https://www.dtapublications.co.uk/handbook/European>

<sup>12</sup> Defra, Natural England, Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru a Llywodraeth Cymru (2021) Canllawiau - Asesiadau rheoliadau cynefinoedd: diogelu safle Ewropeaidd, <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/habitats-regulations-assessments-protecting-a-european-site>

cyfer). Yn arwyddocaol, mae HRA yn seiliedig ar yr egwyddor ragofalus. Lle mae ansicrwydd neu amheuaeth yn parhau, dylid cymryd yn ganiataol effaith andwyol.

## Gwaith HRA blaenorol

**1.13** Cynhaliwyd HRA Cynllun Datblygu Lleol mabwysiedig RhCT (2006-2021) yn ystod ei baratoi, gyda'r Adroddiad Asesu Priodol ar gyfer y Cynllun Adnau yn cael ei gyhoeddi yn 2010<sup>13</sup>.

**1.14** Roedd yr Asesiad Priodol yn ystyried y potensial ar gyfer effeithiau andwyol sy'n deillio o weithredu'r CDLI ar un safle Ewropeaidd; Blaen Cynon ACA. Roedd yr effeithiau andwyol mewn perthynas â darnio cynefin addas ar gyfer glöyn byw *brith cors Euphydryas aurinia* a newidiadau yn y drefn hydrolegol.

**1.15** Daeth yr Asesiad Priodol i'r casgliad na fydd effaith andwyol ar gyfanrwydd ACA Blaen Cynon o'r cynllun yn unig nac ar y cyd â chynlluniau eraill, pan fydd y mesurau osgoi a lliniaru arfaethedig, argymhellion ar gyfer polisi'r CDLI, a mesurau monitro cynlluniau penodol yn cael eu rhoi ar waith. Roedd y casgliadau a'r argymhellion yn adlewyrchu'r cyngor a gafwyd gan Gyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru<sup>14</sup> drwy gydol y broses HRA.

**1.16** Er bod Adroddiad HRA 2010 yn darparu gwybodaeth gefndirol ddefnyddiol ar gyfer HRA y CDLI Diwygiedig, mae'r Adroddiad Sgrinio hwn yn ailystyried ac yn diweddarau'r wybodaeth a dynnwyd ohono'n llawn, er mwyn sicrhau bod ffynonellau data mor ddiweddar â phosibl, ac i gydnabod y gyfraith achosion HRA ddiweddaraf, yn enwedig y dyfarniad 'Pobl Dros Wynt', sy'n ei gwneud yn ofynnol nad yw lliniaru yn cael ei ystyried yn ystod y broses sgrinio. Mae rhagor o wybodaeth am hyn i'w weld ym **mhennod 3**.

**1.17** Y cam cyntaf yn yr HRA y CDLI Diwygiedig oedd paratoi Adroddiad Cwmpasu HRA ym mis Tachwedd 2020. Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn nodi paramedrau'r HRA ar gyfer y CDLI Diwygiedig, gan nodi'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd a fyddai'n cael eu cynnwys a'r dull a fyddai'n cael ei gymryd i'r asesiad. Roedd yr Adroddiad Cwmpasu'r HRA hwn yn destun ymgynghoriad â Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru a rhanddeiliaid eraill ac <sup>15</sup> yn fewnol o fewn y Cyngor, ac mae'r ymatebion a gafwyd wedi llywio'r gwaith o baratoi'r Adroddiad Sgrinio hwn. Manylir ar y sylw a dderbynnir yn **Atodiad A** ynghyd ag ymateb LUC i bob un.

## Strwythur yr adroddiad hwn

**1.18** Mae'r bennod hon (**Pennod 1**) wedi disgrifio cefndir adolygu'r CDLI a'r gofyniad i ymgymryd â HRA. Mae gweddill yr adroddiad wedi'i strwythuro yn yr adrannau canlynol:

- **Mae Pennod 2** yn amlinellu cynnwys y ddogfen ymgynghori Strategaeth a Ffebrir.
- **Mae Pennod 3** yn disgrifio'r dull o ymdrin â'r HRA. Mae hefyd yn disgrifio cyfraith achosion ddiweddar, yn crynhoi'r materion allweddol y bydd angen eu hystyried yn ystod y HRA ac yn nodi'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd yn RhCT ac o'i gwmpas y gallai'r CDLI Diwygiedig effeithio arnynt.
- **Mae Pennod 4** yn disgrifio'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd yn RhCT a'u gwendidau allweddol.
- **Mae Pennod 5** yn adrodd canfyddiadau Cam Sgrinio'r HRA.
- **Mae Pennod 6** yn disgrifio'r camau nesaf a fydd yn cael eu cymryd yn HRA y CDLI Diwygiedig.

**1.19** Cefnogir y wybodaeth ym mhrif gorff yr adroddiad gan yr atodiadau canlynol:

- **Mae Atodiad A** yn cyflwyno sylwadau ymgynghori HRA Scope.
- **Mae Atodiad B** yn cyflwyno map sy'n dangos y safleoedd Ewropeaidd o fewn RhCT (+15km).
- **Mae Atodiad C** yn nodi gwybodaeth fanwl am y safleoedd Ewropeaidd sy'n ganolbwynt i'r HRA.
- **Mae Atodiad D** yn cyflwyno'r matrices Sgrinio HRA.

<sup>13</sup> Adroddiad Asesu Rheoliadau Cynefinoedd (Ionawr 2010) (Asesiad Priodol). Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf: Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Adnau.

<sup>14</sup> Ar yr adeg y cynhaliwyd HRA ar gyfer y CDLI mabwysiedig, nid oedd Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru wedi'i ffurfio a'r corff ymgynghori statudol oedd Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru (CCW).

<sup>15</sup> Gan gynnwys y GIG, Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru, CADW, Ymddiriedolaeth Archeolegol Morgannwg-Gwent, Comisiynydd y Gymraeg, Comisiynydd Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol.



- **Mae Atodiad E** yn cyflwyno map o'r ffyrdd strategol o fewn 200m i'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd yn RhCT a'r cyffiniau.

## **Pennod 2**

### **CDLI Diwygiedig – Strategaeth a Ffefrir**

**2.1** Strategaeth a Ffefrir y CDLI Diwygiedig yn sylfaenol yw cynigion cyn-adneuo'r Cyngor, ac mae'n cael ei pharatoi cyn llunio iteriad terfynol y CDLI, a elwir yn 'Cynllun Adnau'.

**2.2** Mae'r Strategaeth a Ffefrir yn nodi swm a dosbarthiad y datblygiad arfaethedig i'w gyflawni yn RhCT, gan gynnwys Safleoedd Allweddol, a nodwyd fel rhai sy'n rhan annatod o gyflawni'r CDLI Diwygiedig. Nid yw'n cynnwys dyraniadau safle-benodol ar hyn o bryd ar wahân i bedwar Safle Allweddol arfaethedig.

## Gweledigaeth ac Amcanion

**2.3** Cyflwynir y Weledigaeth a chyfres o Amcanion ategol yn **Adran 4** y Strategaeth a Ffefrir. Mae'r weledigaeth fel a ganlyn.

"Y weledigaeth erbyn 2037 yw RCT mwy gwydn a chynaliadwy:

- Ardal o gymunedau cynaliadwy, cydlynol sy'n iach, wedi'u cysylltu'n dda ac sydd â mynediad cyfartal i gartrefi, swyddi, gwasanaethau a chyfleusterau o ansawdd uchel.
- Ardal sy'n fwy gwydn ac ystyriol o heriau newid yn yr hinsawdd gyda bioamrywiaeth a mannau gwyrdd gwarchoddedig a gwella a system drafnidiaeth gynaliadwy gysylltiedig.
- Ardal gydag economi amrywiol ac iach, gyda chefnogaeth canol trefi bywiog a hyfwy a sector twristiaeth ffyniannus. RCT sy'n dathlu ei threftadaeth ac sy'n wydn ar gyfer y dyfodol."

**2.4** Bydd y Weledigaeth yn cael ei chyflawni drwy Amcanion y Cynllun, sydd wedi'u crynhoi isod.

- **Amcan 1:** Lliniaru ac addasu i effeithiau newid yn yr hinsawdd a lleihau perygl llifogydd.
- **Amcan 2:** Darparu swm a chymysgedd priodol o dai i ddiwallu anghenion lleol.
- **Amcan 3:** Hyrwyddo cymunedau bywiog, gyda chyfleoedd i fyw, gweithio a chymdeithasu i bawb.
- **Amcan 4:** Annog ffyrdd iach a diogel o fyw sy'n hyrwyddo lles ac yn gwella lefelau iechyd cyffredinol yn RhCT.
- **Amcan 5:** Lleihau'r angen i deithio a hyrwyddo dulliau trafnidiaeth mwy cynaliadwy.
- **Amcan 6:** Hyrwyddo, amddiffyn a gwella treftadaeth ddiwylliannol a'r amgylchedd adeiledig.
- **Amcan 7:** Hyrwyddo'r defnydd o'r Gymraeg.
- **Amcan 8:** Diogelu a gwella ansawdd a chymeriad y dirwedd.
- **Amcan 9:** Diogelu a gwella bioamrywiaeth.
- **Amcan 10:** Diogelu ansawdd a maint adnoddau dŵr RhCT.
- **Amcan 11:** Diogelu a gwella ansawdd aer a sicrhau seiluniau priodol.
- **Amcan 12:** Hyrwyddo defnydd effeithlon o dir, priddoedd a mwynau.
- **Amcan 13:** Parhau i leihau cynhyrchu gwastraff a hyrwyddo rheoli gwastraff yn fwy cynaliadwy.
- **Amcan 14:** Darparu ar gyfer economi gynaliadwy.
- **Amcan 15:** Darparu ar gyfer amrywiaeth eang o gyfleoedd gwaith.
- **Amcan 16:** Hyrwyddo Canol Trefi bywiog, hyblyg a gwydn.
- **Amcan 17:** Mynd i'r afael ag effeithiau'r etifeddiaeth lofaol yn RhCT.
- **Amcan 18:** Cefnogi twf y sector twristiaeth a hamdden.

## Dewisiadau Twf a Gofodol

**2.5** Nodir opsiynau amgen ar gyfer faint a dosbarthiad twf yn Adrannau 6 a 7 o'r Strategaeth a Ffefrir CDLI Ddiwygiedig. Nid yw'r opsiynau hyn wedi bod yn ddarostyngedig i HRA; yn hytrach mae'r HRA yn canolbwyntio ar y Strategaeth a Ffefrir sy'n cynrychioli bwriadau'r Cyngor ynghylch pa opsiynau(au) i'w datblygu.

## Strategaeth a Ffefrir

**2.6** Mae Adran 8 o'r Strategaeth a Ffefrir yn cyflwyno'r strategaeth gyffredinol ar gyfer y CDLI Diwygiedig. Mae hyn yn cynnwys darparu 8,450 o gartrefi dros gyfnod y Cynllun (564 y flwyddyn) a 3,990 o swyddi (266 y flwyddyn). Mae'r strategaeth ddsbarthu yn cynrychioli cyfuniad o'r agweddau mwyaf cadarnhaol ar yr Opsiynau Strategaeth Ofodol a ystyriwyd gan y Cyngor.

Penderfynwyd bod elfennau sylfaenol Strategaeth Gofodol bresennol y CDLI yn parhau'n briodol fel sylfaen ar gyfer y CDLI Diwygiedig.

**2.7** Rhennir ardal strategaeth bresennol y CDLI yn ddwy ran wahanol, Ardal Strategaeth y Gogledd (NSA) ac Ardal Strategaeth y De (SSA) lle mae dull polisi gwahanol yn cael ei gymryd ar gyfer pob un. Mae'r sylfaen dystiolaeth yn awgrymu bod angen clir o hyd am barhad y dull gwahanol hwn o ymdrin â strategaeth ar gyfer gogledd a de'r Fwrdeistref Sirol, gyda lefelau twf tai yn y gogledd yn is nag yn y de.

**2.8** Felly, diffinnir Strategaeth Ddewisol y CDLI Ddiwygiedig fel 'Strategaeth Cymunedau Cynaliadwy Gogledd a Thwf Cynaliadwy De' ar gyfer yr Ardaloedd Strategaeth Gogledd a De ar wahân.

## **Pennod 3**

### **Ymagwedd at ARC**

## Camau yn HRA

**3.1** Mae HRA cynlluniau datblygu yn cael ei wneud fesul cam (fel y disgrifir isod) a dylent ddod i'r casgliad a fyddai cynnig yn effeithio'n andwyol ar gyfanrwydd y safle Ewropeaidd dan sylw ai peidio.

**3.2** Dylai'r 'awdurdod cymwys' ymgymryd â'r HRA, yn yr achos hwn Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf. Mae LUC wedi cael ei gomisiynu gan y Cyngor i wneud gwaith HRA ar ei ran, er y dylid adrodd am hyn i'r Cyngor a'i ystyried fel yr awdurdod cymwys, cyn mabwysiadu'r CDLI Diwygiedig.

**3.3** Mae'r HRA hefyd yn gofyn am weithio'n agos gyda Chyfoeth Naturiol Cymru fel y corff cadwraeth natur statudol<sup>16</sup> i gael y wybodaeth angenrheidiol, cytuno ar y broses, y canlyniadau a'r cynigion lliniaru.

## Gofynion y Rheoliadau Cynefinoedd

**3.4** Wrth asesu effeithiau Cynllun yn unol â Rheoliad 105 o Reoliadau Gwarchod Cynefinoedd a Rhywogaethau 2017 (fel y'u diwygiwyd), mae'n bosibl y bydd dau brawf yn cael eu cymhwyso gan yr awdurdod cymwys: 'Prawf Arwyddocad', ac yna Asesiad Priodol a fyddai'n llywio'r 'Prawf Uniondeb' os oes angen. Mae'r gyfres berthnasol o gwestiynau fel a ganlyn:

- Cam 1: O dan Reoliad 105(1)(b), ystyriwch a yw'r cynllun wedi'i gysylltu'n uniongyrchol â rheoli'r safleoedd neu'n angenrheidiol iddynt. Os na, yna mae'r ystyriaethau yn mynd ymlaen i Gam 2.
- Cam 2: O dan Reoliad 105(1)(a) ystyried a yw'r cynllun yn debygol o gael effaith sylweddol ar safle Ewropeaidd, naill ai ar ei ben ei hun neu ar y cyd â chynlluniau neu brosiectau eraill (y 'Prawf Arwyddocad'). Os felly, ewch ymlaen i gam 3.
  - [Mae camau 1 a 2 yn cael eu cymryd fel rhan o Gyfnod 1: Sgrinio Adnoddau Dynol mewn adran camau nodweddiadol]
- Cam 3: O dan Reoliad 105(1), gwnewch Asesiad Priodol o'r goblygiadau i'r safle Ewropeaidd o ystyried ei amcanion cadwraeth cyfredol (y 'Prawf Uniondeb'). Wrth wneud hynny, mae'n orfodol o dan Reg. 105(2) ymgynghori â Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, ac yn ddewisol o dan Reg. 105(3) i gymryd barn y cyhoedd yn gyffredinol.
  - [Gwneir y cam hwn yn ystod Cyfnod 2: Asesiad Priodol a ddangosir yn yr adran camau nodweddiadol]
- Cam 4: Yn unol â Reg. 105(4), ond yn amodol ar Reg. 107, gweithredwch y cynllun defnydd tir dim ond ar ôl canfod na fyddai'r cynllun yn effeithio'n andwyol ar gyfanrwydd safle Ewropeaidd.
  - [Mae'r cam hwn yn dilyn Cam 2 lle mae canfyddiad o 'ddim effaith andwyol' yn dod i ben. Os na all fod, mae'n mynd ymlaen i Gam 5 fel rhan o Gyfnod 3 o'r broses HRA]
- Cam 5: O dan Reoliad 107, os nad yw Cam 4 yn gallu diystyru effeithiau andwyol ar gyfanrwydd safle Ewropeaidd ac nad oes atebion amgen yn bodoli, yna gall yr awdurdod cymwys gytuno i'r cynllun neu'r prosiect os oes rhaid ei gynnal am 'resymau hanfodol o orbwyso budd y cyhoedd' (IROPI).
  - [Gwneir y cam hwn yn ystod Cyfnod 3: Asesu lle nad oes dewisiadau amgen yn bodoli ac effeithiau niweidiol yn parhau i ystyried lliniaru a ddangosir yn adran camau nodweddiadol]

## Camau nodweddiadol

**3.5 Mae Tabl 3.1** yn crynhoi'r camau a'r tasgau a'r canlyniadau cysylltiedig sy'n gysylltiedig fel arfer â chyflawni HRA llawn o gynllun datblygu, yn seiliedig ar ddogfennau cyfarwyddyd amrywiol,<sup>17,18,19</sup>

**3.6** Mae'r Adroddiad HRA hwn yn cyflwyno allbwn trydedd dasg Cam 1: Sgrinio HRA, sef y prawf o effeithiau sylweddol tebygol.

<sup>16</sup> Rheoliad 5 Rheoliadau Cynefinoedd 2017

<sup>17</sup> Y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd (2001) Asesiad o gynlluniau a phrosiectau sy'n effeithio'n sylweddol ar Safleoedd Ewropeaidd. Canllawiau methodolegol ar ddarpariaethau Erthygl 6(3) a (4) o Gyfarwydddeb Cynefinoedd 92/43/EEC.

<sup>18</sup> Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru, Polisi Cynllunio Cymru, Nodyn Cyngor Technegol, 5. Cadwraeth Natur a Chynllunio, ar gael gan <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-09/tan5-nature-conservation.pdf>

<sup>19</sup> Llawlyfr HRA. David Tyldesley & Associates, dogfen ganllaw ar-lein sy'n seiliedig ar danysgrifiad: <https://www.dtapublications.co.uk/handbook/European>

Tabl 3.1: Camau HRA

Llwyfan	Tasg	Canlyniad
<p><b>Cam 1:</b> Sgrinio HRA</p>	<p>Disgrifiad o'r cynllun datblygu a'r cadarnhad nad yw'n gysylltiedig yn uniongyrchol â rheoli safleoedd Ewropeaidd neu'n angenrheidiol iddo.</p> <p>Adnabod safleoedd Ewropeaidd a allai gael eu heffeithio a'u hamcanion cadwraeth<sup>20</sup>.</p> <p>Asesu effeithiau sylweddol tebygol y cynllun datblygu yn unig neu ar y cyd â chynlluniau a phrosiectau eraill, cyn ystyried mesurau osgoi neu leihau ('lliniaru')<sup>21</sup></p>	<p>Pan fydd effeithiau'n annhebygol, paratowch 'adroddiad dim effaith sylweddol'.</p> <p>Pan fernir effeithiau yn debygol, neu ddiffyg gwybodaeth i brofi fel arall, ewch ymlaen i Gam 2.</p>
<p><b>Cam 2:</b> Asesiad Priodol (lle nad yw Cam 1 yn diystyru effeithiau arwyddocaol tebygol)</p>	<p>Casglu gwybodaeth (cynllun datblygu a Safleoedd Ewropeaidd<sup>22</sup>).</p> <p>Rhagfynegiad effaith.</p> <p>Gwerthuso effeithiau cynllun datblygu o ystyried amcanion cadwraeth safleoedd Ewropeaidd.</p> <p>Pan ystyrir bod effeithiau'n effeithio'n uniongyrchol neu'n anuniongyrchol ar nodweddion cymwys safleoedd Ewropeaidd, nodi sut y bydd yr effeithiau hyn yn cael eu hosgoi neu eu lleihau ('lliniaru').</p>	<p>Adroddiad asesu priodol sy'n disgrifio'r cynllun, amodau sylfaenol safle Ewropeaidd, effeithiau andwyol y cynllun ar y safle Ewropeaidd, sut y bydd yr effeithiau hyn yn cael eu hosgoi neu eu lleihau, gan gynnwys y mecanweithiau a'r amserlen ar gyfer y mesurau lliniaru hyn.</p> <p>Os bydd effeithiau'n parhau ar ôl ystyried yr holl ddewisiadau amgen a mesurau lliniaru ewch ymlaen i Gyfnod 3.</p>
<p><b>Cam 3:</b> Asesiad lle nad oes dewisiadau eraill yn bodoli ac effeithiau niweidiol yn parhau i ystyried lliniaru</p>	<p>Nodi 'rhesymau hanfodol o ran budd y cyhoedd' (IROPI).</p> <p>Dangos nad oes unrhyw ddewisiadau eraill yn bodoli.</p> <p>Nodi mesurau iawndal posibl.</p>	<p>Dylid osgoi'r cam hwn os yw'n bosibl. Mae prawf IROPI a'r gofynion ar gyfer iawndal yn hynod feichus.</p>

**3.7** Fel arfer, rhagwelir y bydd pwyslais ar Gamau 1 a 2 y broses hon, trwy gyfres o iteriadau, yn helpu i sicrhau bod effeithiau andwyol posibl yn cael eu nodi a'u dileu trwy gynnwys mesurau lliniaru a gynlluniwyd i osgoi, lleihau neu leihau effeithiau. Gallai'r angen i ystyried dewisiadau amgen awgrymu newidiadau mwy beichus i ddogfen gynllun. Deallir yn gyffredinol mai dim ond yn achlysurol iawn y gellir cyfiawnhau IROPI fel y'i gelwir, a byddai'n golygu ymgysylltu â'r Llywodraeth.

### Newidiadau diweddar yn y gyfraith achos

**3.8** Bydd y HRA hwn yn cael ei baratoi yn unol â chanfyddiadau cyfraith achosion perthnasol, gan gynnwys y dyfarniadau 'Pobl dros Wynt' a 'Holohan' gan Lys Cyfiawnder yr Undeb Ewropeaidd (CJEU).

<sup>20</sup> Cyhoeddir amcanion cadwraeth gan Natural England ar gyfer ACA ac AGA: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/category/6490068894089216>

<sup>21</sup> Yn unol â dyfarniad CJEU yn Achos C-323/17 Pobl Dros Wynt v Coillte Teoranta, dim ond ar hyn o bryd y mae'n rhaid ystyried lliniaru ac nid yn ystod Cam 1: Sgrinio HRA.

<sup>22</sup> Yn ogystal â chyfeiriadau safleoedd ac amcanion cadwraeth Ewropeaidd, mae ffynonellau gwybodaeth allweddol ar gyfer deall ffactorau sy'n cyfrannu at gyfanrwydd safleoedd Ewropeaidd yn cynnwys (lle bo ar gael) gyngor atodol amcanion cadwraeth a Chynlluniau Gwella Safle a baratowyd gan Natural England: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/category/5458594975711232>

**3.9** Dyfarnodd *dyfarniad Pobl dros y Gwynt, Peter Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta* (Ebrill 2018) y dylid dehongli Erthygl 6(3) o'r Gyfarwydddeb Cynefinoedd fel sy'n golygu y dylid asesu mesurau lliniaru fel rhan o Asesiad Priodol ac ni ddylid eu hystyried yn ystod y cam sgrinio. Mae union eiriad y dyfarniad fel a ganlyn:

Erthygl 6(3) ..... Rhaid dehongli fel sy'n golygu, er mwyn penderfynu a oes angen cynnal asesiad priodol o oblygiadau, ar gyfer safle dan sylw, cynllun neu brosiect, nid yw'n briodol, yn y cam sgrinio, ystyried mesurau a fwriedir i osgoi neu leihau effeithiau niweidiol y cynllun neu'r prosiect ar y safle hwnnw.

**3.10** Yng ngoleuni'r uchod, ni fydd cam Sgrinio HRA yn dibynnu ar fesurau osgoi neu liniaru i ddod i gasgliadau ynghylch a allai'r CDLI Diwygiedig arwain at 'effeithiau sylweddol tebygol' ar safleoedd Ewropeaidd, gydag unrhyw fesurau o'r fath yn cael eu hystyried yn y cam Asesiad Priodol fel rhai perthnasol.

**3.11** Bydd yr HRA hefyd yn ystyried *dyfarniad Holohan v An Bord Pleanala* (Tachwedd 2018) yn llawn a oedd yn nodi:

"Rhaid dehongli Erthygl 6(3) o Gyfarwydddeb y Cyngor 92/43/EEC ar 21 Mai 1992 ar gadwraeth cynefinoedd naturiol a ffawna gwyllt a fflora sy'n golygu bod yn rhaid i 'asesiad priodol', ar y naill law, gatalogio'r holl fathau o gynefinoedd a rhywogaethau y mae safle'n cael ei warchod ar eu cyfer, ac, ar y llaw arall, nodi ac archwilio goblygiadau'r prosiect arfaethedig ar gyfer y rhywogaethau sy'n bresennol ar y safle hwnnw, ac nad yw'r safle hwnnw wedi'i restru ar ei gyfer, a'r goblygiadau i fathau o gynefinoedd a rhywogaethau gael eu canfod y tu allan i ffiniau'r safle hwnnw, ar yr amod bod y goblygiadau hynny'n agored i effeithio ar amcanion cadwraeth y safle."

**3.12** Bydd LUC yn ystyried yn llawn y potensial ar gyfer effeithiau ar rywogaethau a chynefinoedd, gan gynnwys y rhai nad ydynt wedi'u rhestru fel nodweddion cymwys, i arwain at effeithiau eilaidd ar nodweddion cymwys safleoedd Ewropeaidd, gan gynnwys y potensial ar gyfer rhyngweithio a dibyniaethau cymhleth. Yn ogystal, bydd y potensial ar gyfer effeithiau oddi ar y safle, megis trwy effeithiau i gynefin â chysylltiad swyddogaethol, a rhywogaethau a chynefinoedd sydd y tu hwnt i ffiniau safle Ewropeaidd, ond a allai fod yn bwysig wrth gefnogi prosesau ecolegol y nodweddion cymwys, hefyd yn cael ei ystyried yn llawn yn yr HRA hwn.

**3.13** Yn yr un modd, ystyriwyd effeithiau ar gynefinoedd a rhywogaethau cymwys a chefnogol ar dir sydd â chysylltiad swyddogaethol (FLL) neu gynefin yn yr HRA, yn unol â dyfarniad yr Uchel Lys yn RSPB ac eraill v Secretary of State a London Ashford Airport Ltd [2014 EWHC 1523 Admin] (paragraff 27), a oedd yn nodi:

"Does dim awdurdod ar arwyddocâd statws anstatudol y FLL. Fodd bynnag, nid yw'r ffaith nad oedd y FLL o fewn safle gwarchoddedig yn golygu bod yr effaith y gallai dirywiad yn ei ansawdd neu swyddogaeth ei chael ar safle gwarchoddedig gael ei anwybyddu. Roedd yr effaith anuniongyrchol yn dal i gael ei diogelu. Er bod cwestiwn ei statws cyfreithiol wedi'i grybwyll, rwy'n fodlon .... Er nad oes unrhyw statws cyfreithiol penodol ynghlwm wrth FLL, mae'r ffaith bod tir wedi'i gysylltu'n weithredol â thir gwarchoddedig yn golygu bod yr effeithiau anuniongyrchol andwyol ar safle gwarchoddedig, a gynhyrchir gan effeithiau ar FLL, yn cael eu craffu yn yr un fframwaith cyfreithiol yn union fel y mae effeithiau uniongyrchol gweithredoedd a wneir ar y safle gwarchoddedig ei hun. Dyna'r unig ddull synhwyrol a phurposifus lle nad yw rhywogaeth neu effaith wedi'i chyfyngu gan linell ar fap neu ffens ffin. Mae hyn yn arbennig o bwysig lle tynnir ffiniau safleoedd dynodedig fel arfer y DU."

**3.14** Yn ogystal â hyn, mae'r HRA yn ystyried y dyfarniad 'Wealden' gan y CJEU.

**3.15** Dyfarnodd *Cyngor Dosbarth Wealden v yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Gymunedau a Llywodraeth Leol, Cyngor Dosbarth Lewes ac Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol South Downs* (2017) nad oedd yn briodol ystyried yr angen am asesiad manwl ar gyfer cynllun neu brosiect unigol yn seiliedig ar ffigurau traffig dyddiol cyfartalog blynyddol (AADT) a nodir yn y Llawlyfr Dylunio ar gyfer Ffyrdd a Phontydd neu'r llwythi critigol a ddefnyddir gan Defra neu Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd heb ystyried yr mewn cyfuniad yn effeithio ar gynlluniau a phrosiectau eraill.

**3.16** Yng ngoleuni'r dyfarniad hwn, mae'r HRA felly'n ystyried twf traffig yn seiliedig ar effeithiau datblygiad o'r CDLI Diwygiedig ar y cyd â sbardunwyr twf eraill fel datblygiad a gynigir mewn ardaloedd cyfagos a newid demograffig.

**3.17** Mae'r HRA hefyd yn ystyried *dyfarniad Grace and Sweetman* (Gorffennaf 2018) gan y CJEU a oedd yn nodi:



- "Mae gwahaniaeth i'w dynnu rhwng mesurau amddiffynnol sy'n ffurfio rhan o brosiect a'r bwriad yw osgoi neu leihau unrhyw effeithiau andwyol uniongyrchol y gallai'r prosiect eu hachosi er mwyn sicrhau nad yw'r prosiect yn effeithio'n andwyol ar gyfanrwydd yr ardal, sy'n dod o dan Erthygl 6(3), a mesurau sydd yn unol ag Erthygl 6(4), maent wedi'u hanelu at wneud iawn am effeithiau negyddol y prosiect ar ardal warchoddedig ac ni ellir eu hystyried wrth asesu goblygiadau'r prosiect."
- "Fel rheol gyffredinol, mae'n anodd iawn rhagweld unrhyw effeithiau cadarnhaol creu cynefin newydd yn y dyfodol, sydd â'r nod o wneud iawn am golli ardal ac ansawdd y math hwnnw o gynefin mewn ardal warchoddedig, yn anodd iawn i'w rhagweld gydag unrhyw raddau o sicrwydd neu a fydd yn weladwy yn y dyfodol yn unig. "
- "Dim ond yn AA (a.6(3)) y gellir ystyried strategaeth liniaru lle mae'r awdurdod cymwys yn "ddigon sicr y bydd mesur yn gwneud cyfraniad effeithiol at osgoi niwed, gan warantu y tu hwnt i bob amheuaeth resymol na fydd y prosiect yn effeithio'n andwyol ar gyfanrwydd yr ardal".
- "Fel arall, mae'n disgyn i'w ystyried yn fesur digolledol i'w ystyried o dan a.6(4) dim ond lle mae "rhesymau hanfodol dros drechu budd y cyhoedd".

**3.18** Felly, mae'r Asesiad Priodol o'r CDLI Diwygiedig yn ystyried bodolaeth mesurau i osgoi neu leihau ei effeithiau andwyol uniongyrchol (lliniaru) os yw buddion disgwylledig y mesurau hynny y tu hwnt i amheuaeth resymol ar adeg yr asesiad.

## Methodoleg Sgrinio HRA

**3.19** Mae Sgrinio HRA o'r CDLI Diwygiedig yn cael ei gynnal yn unol â'r canllawiau cyfredol sydd ar gael ac yn ceisio bodloni gofynion y Rheoliadau Cynefinoedd. Mae'r tasgau sydd wedi'u gwneud yn ystod cam Sgrinio'r HRA yn cael eu disgrifio'n fanwl isod.

**3.20** Pwrpas y cam sgrinio yw:

- Nodi pob agwedd ar y cynllun na fyddai'n cael unrhyw effaith ar wefan Ewropeaidd, fel y gellir eu dileu o ystyriaeth bellach mewn perthynas â hyn a chynlluniau eraill.
- Nodi pob agwedd ar y cynllun na fyddai'n debygol o gael effaith sylweddol ar safle Ewropeaidd (h.y. fyddai'n cael rhywfaint o effaith, oherwydd cysylltiadau/cysylltedd, ond nad ydynt yn arwyddocaol), naill ai ar eu pennau eu hunain neu ar y cyd ag agweddau eraill ar yr un cynllun neu gynlluniau neu brosiectau eraill, nad oes angen 'Asesiad Priodol' arnynt.
- Nodi'r agweddau hynny ar y cynllun lle nad yw'n bosibl diystyru'r risg o effeithiau sylweddol ar safle Ewropeaidd, naill ai ar ei ben ei hun neu ar y cyd â chynlluniau neu brosiectau eraill. Mae hyn yn darparu cwmmpas clir ar gyfer y rhannau o'r cynllun a fydd yn gofyn am Asesiad Priodol.

## Adnabod safleoedd Ewropeaidd a allai gael eu heffeithio gan y CDLI Diwygiedig

**3.21** Er mwyn cychwyn chwilio am safleoedd Ewropeaidd y gallai'r CDLI Diwygiedig effeithio arnynt, mae'n arfer sefydledig mewn HRAs ystyried safleoedd Ewropeaidd o fewn ardal yr awdurdod cynllunio lleol a gwmpesir gan y Gynllun, a hefyd o fewn pellter clustog i ffin ardal y Cynllun.

**3.22** Defnyddiwyd pellter o 15km o ffin RhCT fel man cychwyn i nodi safleoedd Ewropeaidd y gallai effeithiau sy'n ymwneud â'r CDLI Diwygiedig effeithio arnynt. Yn ogystal â hyn, rhoddwyd ystyriaeth hefyd i safleoedd Ewropeaidd a allai fod wedi'u cysylltu ag ardal y cynllun y tu hwnt i'r pellter hwn, er enghraifft trwy lwybrau hydrolegol neu ymweliadau hamdden gan drigolion RhCT.

**3.23** Darperir gwybodaeth am y safleoedd Ewropeaidd a ystyrir yn yr HRA hwn ym **Mhennod 4**.

## Asesiad o 'effeithiau sylweddol tebygol' y CDLI Diwygiedig

**3.24** Mae Rheoliad 105 o Reoliadau Gwarchod Cynefinoedd a Rhywogaethau 2017 (y 'Rheoliadau Cynefinoedd') yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i asesiad o 'effeithiau sylweddol tebygol' y dulliau polisi a'r dyraniadau safle a nodir yn y CDLI Diwygiedig.

**3.25** Mae'r asesiad sgrinio yn ystyried y potensial ar gyfer effeithiau sylweddol tebygol o ganlyniad i bob elfen o'r CDLI Diwygiedig. Mae'r asesiad sgrinio yn cael ei gynnal heb gymryd lliniaru (e.e. wedi'i ymgorffori mewn polisi) i ystyriaeth, yn unol â'r dyfarniad 'Pobl dros Wynt'.

**3.26** Mabwysiadwyd dull sy'n seiliedig ar risg sy'n cynnwys cymhwyso'r egwyddor ragofalus yn yr asesiad, fel na cheir casgliad o 'unrhyw effaith sylweddol' dim ond pan ystyrir ei fod yn annhebygol iawn, yn seiliedig ar wybodaeth gyfredol a'r wybodaeth sydd ar gael, y byddai cynnig yn y CDLI Diwygiedig yn cael effaith sylweddol ar gyfanrwydd safle Ewropeaidd.

**3.27** Rhoddir ystyriaeth i'r potensial ar gyfer y datblygiad a gynigir fel rhan o'r CDLI Diwygiedig i arwain at effeithiau sylweddol sy'n gysylltiedig â:

- **Colli neu ddifrodi cynefinoedd yn gorfforol** e.e. o ddatblygiad neu weithgareddau o fewn y safleoedd Ewropeaidd eu hunain neu mewn safleoedd sy'n gysylltiedig yn swyddogaethol.
- **Darnio neu dorri cynefinoedd** e.e. o ddatblygiad rhwng safle Ewropeaidd a safleoedd sydd â chysylltiad swyddogaethol;
- **Aflonyddwch anghorfforol, e.e. sŵn, dirgryniad neu olau** o adeiladu neu ddatblygu yn agos at rywogaethau sensitif;
- **Pwysedd hamdden ac effeithiau ymyl trefol** e.e. cerdded cŵn, beicio, sathru, sbwriel, tân, neu ysglyfaethu gan anifeiliaid anwes;
- **Llygredd aer** o newidiadau yng nghyrolau traffig ar ffyrdd sy'n agos at gynefinoedd sensitif neu o ffynonellau allyriadau eraill megis gweithgareddau diwydiannol; a
- **Newidiadau mewn ansawdd dŵr neu faint** e.e. newidiadau mewn llif a achosir gan echdynnu / rhyddhau, llygredd damweiniol, neu gynyddu llwytho maetholion o driniaeth carthffosiaeth.

**3.28** Gallai'r effeithiau hyn ddigwydd yn uniongyrchol ar y safleoedd Ewropeaidd neu'n anuniongyrchol, er enghraifft mewn cynefinoedd y dibynnir arnynt gan rywogaethau cymwys o'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd - a elwir yn 'gynefin â chysylltiad swyddogaethol'.

**3.29** Bydd y dull thematig/effaith hwn yn caniatáu ystyried effeithiau cronus y twf a gynigir drwy'r CDLI Diwygiedig yn hytrach na chanolbwyntio'n gyfan gwbl ar ddatblygiadau unigol y darperir ar eu cyfer.

**3.30** Ar gyfer rhai mathau o effeithiau, gellir pennu'r potensial ar gyfer effeithiau sylweddol tebygol ar sail agosrwydd, gan ddefnyddio data GIS i bennu agosrwydd lleoliadau datblygu posibl i'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd sy'n destun yr asesiad. Fodd bynnag, mae llawer o ansicrwydd yn gysylltiedig â defnyddio pellteroedd penodol gan mai ychydig iawn o safonau sydd ar gael fel canllaw i ba raddau y bydd yr effeithiau yn teithio. Felly, pan fo rhagdybiaethau wedi'u gwneud neu lle defnyddiwyd gwybodaeth ychwanegol i benderfynu a yw'r CDLI Diwygiedig yn debygol o gael effaith sylweddol, nodir y rhain ym **Mhennod 5**.

### Dehongli 'effaith sylweddol debygol'

**3.31** Mae cyfraith achos berthnasol yn helpu i ddehongli pryd y dylid ystyried effeithiau fel rhai sy'n debygol o arwain at effaith sylweddol, wrth gyflawni HRA Cynllun.

**3.32** Yn achos Waddenzee<sup>23</sup>, dyfarnodd Llys Cyfiawnder Ewrop ar ddehongli Erthygl 6(3) o'r Gyfarwyddeb Cynefinoedd (a gyfieithwyd i Reg. 102 yn y Rheoliadau Cynefinoedd), gan gynnwys:

- Dylid ystyried effaith yn 'debygol', "os na ellir ei heithrio, ar sail gwybodaeth wrthrychol, y bydd yn cael effaith sylweddol ar y safle" (paragraff 44).
- Dylid ystyried effaith yn 'sylweddol', "os yw'n tanselilio'r amcanion cadwraeth" (paragraff 48).
- Pan fo cynllun neu brosiect yn cael effaith ar safle "ond nad yw'n debygol o danseilio ei amcanion cadwraeth, ni ellir ei ystyried yn debygol o gael effaith sylweddol ar y safle dan sylw" (paragraff 47).

**3.33** Dywedodd barn a gyflwynwyd i Lys Cyfiawnder yr Undeb Ewropeaidd:

"Mae'r gofyniad bod effaith dan sylw yn 'sylweddol' yn bodoli er mwyn gosod trothwy de minimis. Felly, nid yw cynlluniau neu brosiectau nad ydynt yn cael unrhyw effaith sylweddol ar y wefan yn cael eu heithrio. Pe bai'r holl gynlluniau neu brosiectau a allai gael unrhyw effaith o gwbl ar y safle yn cael eu dal gan Erthygl 6(3), byddai gweithgareddau ar y safle neu'n agos iddo mewn perygl o fod yn amhosibl oherwydd gor-laddiad deddfwriaethol.

**3.34** Mae'r farn hon (yr achos 'Sweetman') felly yn caniatáu awdurdodi cynlluniau a phrosiectau y gellir ystyried eu heffeithiau posibl, ar eu pennau eu hunain neu ar y cyd, yn 'ddibwys' neu de minimis; cyfeirio at achosion fel y rhai "nad ydynt yn cael unrhyw

<sup>23</sup> Llys Cyfiawnder Ewrop yn achos C-127/02 Cymdeithas Genedlaethol ar gyfer Cadwraeth Môr Wadden

effaith werthfawrogl ar y safle". Yn ymarferol gellid sgrinio effeithiau o'r fath fel rhai nad ydynt yn cael unrhyw effaith sylweddol debygol; Byddent yn 'ddibwys'.

**3.35** Felly, mae asesiad sgrinio HRA yn ystyried a allai'r CDLI Diwygiedig gael effeithiau sylweddol tebygol naill ai ar ei ben ei hun neu ar y cyd.

### Lliniaru a ddarperir gan y CDLI Diwygiedig

**3.36** Gellid lliniaru rhai o effeithiau posibl y cynllun drwy weithredu polisiau eraill yn y cynllun ei hun, megis darparu seilwaith gwyrdd o fewn datblygiadau newydd (a allai helpu i lliniaru pwysau cynyddol o weithgareddau hamdden mewn safleoedd Ewropeaidd). Serch hynny, yn unol â'r dyfarniad 'Pobl dros Wynt', ni ellir dibynnu ar fesurau osgoi a lliniaru ar y cam Sgrinio, ac felly, lle mae mesurau o'r fath yn bodoli, byddant yn cael eu hystyried yn y cam Asesu Priodol ar gyfer effeithiau a pholisiau lle na ellid diystyru effeithiau arwyddocaol tebygol, naill ai ar eu pennau eu hunain neu mewn cyfuniad.

### Effeithiau mewn cyfuniad

**3.37** Mae Rheoliad 105 o Reoliadau Cynefinoedd 2017 yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i Asesiad Priodol lle mae "*cynllun defnydd tir yn debygol o gael effaith sylweddol ar safle Ewropeaidd (naill ai ar ei ben ei hun neu ar y cyd â chynlluniau neu brosiectau eraill) ac nad yw'n uniongyrchol gysylltiedig â rheoli'r safle nac yn angenrheidiol iddo*". Felly, lle nodir effeithiau sylweddol tebygol ar gyfer y CDLI Diwygiedig, bydd angen ystyried a oes effeithiau sylweddol hefyd ar y cyd â chynlluniau neu brosiectau eraill.

**3.38** Os yw'r CDLI Diwygiedig yn debygol o gael effaith ar ei ben ei hun e.e. oherwydd llygredd dŵr (oherwydd bod llwybrau effaith yn bresennol), ond nid yw'n debygol o fod yn sylweddol, bydd angen i'r asesiad mewn cyfuniad yn y cam Sgrinio benderfynu a oes yna hefyd yr un mathau o effaith o gynlluniau neu brosiectau eraill a allai gyfuno â'r CDLI Diwygiedig i gael effaith sylweddol. Os felly, byddai angen ystyried yr effaith sylweddol debygol hon (e.e. llygredd dŵr) sy'n deillio o'r CDLI Diwygiedig ar y cyd â chynlluniau neu brosiectau eraill, drwy'r cam Asesu Priodol (er enghraifft, er mwyn penderfynu a fyddai llygredd dŵr yn cael effaith andwyol ar gyfanrwydd y safle Ewropeaidd perthnasol). Pan fo'r asesiad sgrinio wedi dod i'r casgliad nad oes llwybr effaith rhwng datblygiad a gynigir yn y CDLI Diwygiedig a'r amodau sy'n angenrheidiol i gynnal nodweddion cymwys safle Ewropeaidd, yna ni fydd unrhyw effeithiau ar y cyd i'w hasesu yn y cam Sgrinio neu Asesu Priodol. Mae'r dull hwn yn cyd-fynd â chanllawiau diweddar ar HRA<sup>24</sup>.

**3.39** Os canfyddir bod llwybrau effaith yn bodoli ar gyfer effaith benodol ond nad yw'n debygol o fod yn arwyddocaol o'r CDLI Diwygiedig yn unig, bydd yr asesiad ar y cyd yn nodi pa gynlluniau a rhaglenni eraill a allai arwain at yr un effaith ar yr un safle Ewropeaidd. Bydd hyn yn canolbwyntio ar dwf wedi'i gynllunio (gan gynnwys tai, cyflogaeth, trafndiaeth, mwynau a gwastraff) o amgylch y safle yr effeithir arno, neu ar hyd y coridor effaith, er enghraifft, pe gallai effeithiau godi o ganlyniad i newidiadau i ddyfrffordd, yna ystyrir twf arfaethedig mewn awdurdodau lleol ar hyd y ddyfrffordd honno.

**3.40** Felly, bydd y potensial ar gyfer effeithiau ar y cyd yn canolbwyntio ar gynlluniau a baratowyd gan awdurdodau lleol sy'n gorgyffwrdd â safleoedd Ewropeaidd sydd o fewn cwrmpas y HRA hwn. Bydd canfyddiadau unrhyw waith HRA cysylltiedig ar gyfer y cynlluniau hynny'n cael eu hadolygu lle bo ar gael. Lle bo'n berthnasol, bydd unrhyw brosiectau strategol yn yr ardal a allai gael effeithiau cyfunol gyda'r CDLI Diwygiedig hefyd yn cael eu nodi a'u hadolygu.

**3.41** Mae'r Llawlyfr HRA ar-lein yn awgrymu y gallai'r cynlluniau a'r prosiectau canlynol fod yn berthnasol i'w hystyried fel rhan o'r asesiad cyfunol:

- Ceisiadau a gyflwynwyd ond heb eu penderfynu eto, gan gynnwys gwrthod yn amodol ar apêl sy'n weddill neu her gyfreithiol;
- Prosiectau sy'n destun adolygiad cyfnodol e.e. trwyddedau blynyddol, yn ystod yr amser y mae eu hadnewyddiad yn cael ei ystyried;
- Prosiectau sydd wedi'u hawdurdodi ond heb eu cychwyn eto;
- Dechreuodd prosiectau ond heb eu cwblhau eto;
- Prosiectau hysbys nad oes angen caniatâd allanol arnynt;
- Cynigion mewn cynlluniau a fabwysiadwyd; a

<sup>24</sup> David Tyldesley and Associates (heb ddyddiad) The HRA Handbook (Adran A3) (Dogfen ganllaw ar-lein seiliedig ar danysgrifiad)

- Cynigion mewn cynlluniau drafft a gyhoeddwyd neu a gyflwynwyd yn ffurfiol ar gyfer ymgynghoriad terfynol, arholiad neu fabwysiadu.

**3.42** Mae'r angen am asesiad mewn cyfuniad hefyd yn codi yn y cam Asesu Priodol, fel y trafodwyd yn yr adran isod.

**3.43** Mae'r prosiectau canlynol wedi'u nodi fel rhai sydd angen eu hystyried (efallai y bydd eraill yn cael eu nodi pan gynhelir yr asesiad effeithiau mewn-cyfunol yn ystod cam nesaf y HRA):

- Deuoli'r A465: Mae gwaith yn cael ei wneud i ddeuoli'r ffordd hon rhwng Dowlais Top ar ochr ddwyreiniol Merthyr Tudful a Hirwaun i'r gorllewin, gyda gwaith i ddod i ben yng nghanol 2025. Mae'r rhan o'r ffordd yn ymestyn yn rhannol o fewn ffin RhCT.
- Enviroparks, Hirwaun: Mae'r cynnig hwn ar gyfer parc adfer adnoddau gwastraff a chynhyrchu ynni cynaliadwy ar dir ar Ystâd Ddiwydiannol Hirwaun. Mae'r safle yn pontio ardal awdurdod cynllunio'r Cyngor ac ardal Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog. Cafodd y cais gwreiddiol ei gymeradwyo yn 2010 a chymeradwywyd cais pellach yn 2015. Cafodd cais yn 2021 i ddyblu uchder y simnai ei wrthod. Mae'r cynllun yn cynnwys datblygu 27,562m<sup>2</sup> o adeiladau a strwythurau, adeiladau prosesau; porthdy a phont bwysu; canolfan ymwelwyr ac adeilad gweinyddol; Cynhwysedd net 20MW wedi'i gyfuno â gwres a phŵer; pentwr awyru 40 metr o uchder; treuliad anaerobig allanol, tanciau dal hylif a nwy; 30,352m<sup>2</sup> o ffyrdd mewnol a safleoedd caled; parcio cerbydau; goleuadau diogelwch allanol; 17,497m<sup>2</sup> o dirlunio; Mewnfeydd ac egres cerbydau, o Fifth and Ninth Avenues, a seilwaith cyfleustodau cysylltiedig.
- Hwb Trafnidiaeth Porth; Cymeradwywyd y cais am ganolfan drafnidiaeth un llawr newydd gyda dolen i bont reilffordd uwchben a gorsaf fysiau saith bae newydd ym mis Mawrth 2021. Dechreuodd y gwaith adeiladu yng Ngwanwyn 2022 ac mae'n dal i fod yn y broses o gael ei adeiladu. Mae'r prosiect yn rhan o raglen Metro Plus sy'n cael ei hariannu drwy Fargen Ddinesig Prifddinas-Ranbarth Caerdydd a Chronfa Trafnidiaeth Leol Llywodraeth Cymru.
- Morlyn Llanw Caerdydd: Cymhwysu gorsaf gynhyrchu trydan morlyn llanw gyda chapasiti cynhyrchu posibl o 1800MW hyd at 2800MW posibl. Mae'r safle arfaethedig wedi'i leoli 2km o geg Afon Wysg ac 8k o flaendraeth Aber Hafren. Mae'r prosiect ar y cam cyn ymgeisio heb amserlen ar gael.

## Methodoleg Asesu Priodol

**3.44** Yn dilyn y cam Sgrinio, os na ellir diystyru effeithiau sylweddol tebygol ar safleoedd Ewropeaidd, mae'n ofynnol i'r awdurdod cynllunio o dan Reoliad 105 o Reoliadau Cynefinoedd 2017 wneud 'Asesiad Priodol' o oblygiadau'r cynllun ar gyfer safleoedd Ewropeaidd, o ystyried eu hamcanion cadwraeth. Mae Canllawiau'r Comisiwn Ewropeaidd yn nodi y dylai'r Asesiad Priodol ystyried effeithiau'r cynllun (naill ai ar ei ben ei hun neu ar y cyd â phrosiectau neu gynlluniau eraill) ar gyfanrwydd safleoedd Ewropeaidd mewn perthynas â'u hamcanion cadwraeth ac i'w strwythur a'u swyddogaeth. Yna mae'r Asesiad Priodol yn canolbwyntio ar y polisïau / opsiynau / dyraniadau safle hynny sydd wedi'u sgrinio ynddynt.

### Asesu'r effeithiau ar gyfanrwydd y safle

**3.45** Mae uniondeb safle yn dibynnu ar allu cynnal ei 'nodweddion cymwys' (h.y. y cynefinoedd Atodiad 1, rhywogaethau Atodiad II, a phoblogaethau adar Atodiad 1 y mae wedi'u dynodi ar eu cyfer) ac i sicrhau eu hyfywedd parhaus. Ystyrir bod lefel uchel o uniondeb yn bodoli lle mae'r potensial i gyflawni amcanion cadwraeth safle yn cael ei wireddu a lle mae'r safle'n gallu hunan-atgyweirio ac adnewyddu gydag isafswm o gymorth rheoli allanol.

**3.46** Mae angen dod i gasgliad ynghylch a fyddai'r CDLI Diwygiedig yn effeithio'n andwyol ar gyfanrwydd safle Ewropeaidd ai peidio. Fel y nodwyd yng Nghanllawiau'r CE, mae asesu'r effeithiau ar gyfanrwydd y safle(au) yn cynnwys ystyried a oes gan effeithiau disgwylidig y polisïau CDLI Diwygiedig (naill ai ar eu pennau eu hunain neu ar y cyd) y potensial i:

- Achosi oedi i gyflawni amcanion cadwraeth ar gyfer y safle.
- Torri ar draws cynnydd tuag at gyflawni amcanion cadwraeth ar gyfer y safle.
- Tarfu ar y ffactorau hynny sy'n helpu i gynnal amodau ffafriol y safle.
- Ymyrryd â chydbywysedd, dosbarthiad a dwysedd rhywogaethau allweddol sy'n arwydd o gyflwr ffafriol y safle.
- Achosi newidiadau i'r agweddau diffiniol hanfodol (e.e. cydbwysedd maetholion) sy'n pennu sut mae'r safle'n gweithredu fel cynefin neu ecosystem

- Newid deinameg perthnasoedd sy'n diffinio strwythur neu swyddogaeth y safle (e.e. y berthynas rhwng pridd a dŵr, neu anifeiliaid a phlanhigion).
- Ymyrryd â newidiadau naturiol disgwylidig i'r safle.
- Lleihau maint cynefinoedd allweddol neu boblogaeth rhywogaethau allweddol.
- Lleihau amrywiaeth y safle.
- Achos aflonyddwch a allai effeithio ar y boblogaeth, y dwysedd neu'r cydbwysedd rhwng rhywogaethau allweddol.
- Yn arwain at ddarnio.
- Yn arwain at golli nodweddion allweddol.

**3.47** Yn gyffredinol, amcanion cadwraeth pob safle Ewropeaidd (**Atodiad C**) yw cynnal y nodweddion cymwys mewn cyflwr ffafriol. Mae ffurflenni Data Safonol Natura 2000, Cynllun Rheoli Craidd (Cymru) a Chynlluniau Gwella Safle (Cymru) ar gyfer pob safle Ewropeaidd yn darparu trosolwg lefel uchel o'r materion (cyfredol a rhagweledig) sy'n effeithio ar gyflwr y nodweddion Ewropeaidd ar y safle(au) ac yn amlinellu'r mesurau blaenoriaeth sydd eu hangen i wella cyflwr y nodweddion. Bydd y rhain yn cael eu tynnu ymlaen i helpu i ddeall yr hyn sydd ei angen i gynnal cyfanrwydd y safleoedd Ewropeaidd.

**3.48** Ar gyfer pob safle yn Ewrop lle nodir effaith ansicr neu arwyddocaol debygol mewn perthynas â'r CDLI Diwygiedig yn y Cyfnod Sgrinio, bydd angen asesiad pellach mewn Asesiad Priodol yn yr iteriad nesaf o'r HRA.

## **Pennod 4**

### **Safleoedd Ewropeaidd yn Rhondda Cynon Taf a'r Cyffiniau**

**4.1** Defnyddiwyd data Systemau Gwybodaeth Ddaearyddol (GIS) i fapio lleoliadau a ffiniau safleoedd Ewropeaidd o fewn 15km i ffin RhCT (**Atodiad B**), gan ddefnyddio data sydd ar gael i'r cyhoedd gan Gyfoeth Naturiol Cymru a Natural England. Mae'r holl safleoedd Ewropeaidd sy'n gorwedd yn rhannol neu'n gyfan gwbl o fewn 15km wedi'u cynnwys, ynghyd ag unrhyw safleoedd Ewropeaidd pell, pellach y gallai datblygiad o fewn RhCT effeithio'n sylweddol arnynt, e.e. os ydynt wedi'u cysylltu'n weithredol.

**4.2** Mae'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd canlynol yn rhannol o fewn ardal RhCT a gwmpesir gan y CDLI Diwygiedig, h.y. y tu allan i Barc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog.:

- ACA Coedydd Nedd a Mellte;
- ACA Coed Bedw Caerdydd; ac
- ACA Blaen Cynon.

**4.3** Mae'r safle Ewropeaidd canlynol o fewn RhCT ond mae'n gorwedd yn gyfan gwbl o fewn Parc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog ac felly nid yw o fewn ffin yr ardal a gwmpesir gan y CDLI Diwygiedig:

- ACA Cwm Cadlan.

**4.4** Mae'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd canlynol o fewn 15km i ffin RhCT:

- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed (7.6km i'r dwyrain);
- ACA Coetiroedd Melin Ddu (3.4km i'r gorllewin);
- ACA Bannau Brycheiniog (4.1km i'r gogledd);
- ACA Bae Dunraven (10.7km i'r de-orllewin);
- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr (9.8km i'r gorllewin);
- ACA Cynffig (9.5km i'r de-orllewin);
- ACA Aber Afon Hafren (12.1km i'r de-ddwyrain);
- AGA Aber Afon Hafren a Ramsar (12.1km i'r de-ddwyrain); ac
- ACA Afon Wysg (8.4km i'r gogledd).

**4.5** Mae ACA Safleoedd Bat Brynbuga ychydig dros 15km o ffin RhCT ac mae wedi cael ei sgrinio allan o ystyriaeth. Er ei fod wedi'i ddynodi ar gyfer rhywogaeth symudol, mae'n debygol mai dim ond o fewn y byffer 10km a osodwyd gan Gyfoeth Naturiol Cymru y mae angen ystyried effeithiau sylweddol ar y safle.<sup>25</sup> Felly, gan na fydd datblygiad o fewn RhCT yn effeithio ar dir o fewn y byffer 10km hwnnw, nid yw'r ACA hwn yn cael ei ystyried ymhellach.

**4.6** Mae priodoleddau'r safleoedd hyn sy'n cyfrannu at ac yn diffinio eu cyfanrwydd wedi'u disgrifio (**Atodiad C**). Wrth wneud hynny, cyfeiriwyd at ffurflenni data safonol Natura 2000, Cynlluniau Rheoli Craidd (Cymru), Cynlluniau Gwella Safleoedd (Lloegr), ac Amcanion Cadwraeth Cyngor Atodol (Lloegr) fel sy'n berthnasol. Mae'r dadansoddiad hwn yn galluogi nodi nodweddion budd safle Ewropeaidd, ynghyd â nodweddion pob safle sy'n pennu uniondeb safle a sensitifrwydd penodol y safle. Bydd y wybodaeth hon yn caniatáu dadansoddiad o sut y gallai effeithiau posibl y CDLI Diwygiedig effeithio ar gyfanrwydd pob safle.

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<sup>25</sup> Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru: Cyfiawnhad dros ddefnyddio byffer 10km o amgylch ACA Safleoedd Bat Brynbuga (heb ei ddiystyru).

## **Pennod 5**

### **Aseiad Sgrinio HRA**



**Mae'r Asesiad Sgrinio hwn yn ystyried y ddogfen ymgynghori Strategaeth a Ffefrir. Ac eithrio'r Safleoedd Allweddol Arfaethedig, nid yw dyraniadau safle wedi'u cynnwys yn y Strategaeth a Ffefrir ac felly bydd y rhain yn cael eu hystyried ar gam nesaf yr HRA ar gyfer y Cynllun Adnau.**

## Sgrinio CDLI Diwygiedig

**5.1** Mae'r adran hon yn cyflwyno canfyddiadau Sgrinio HRA ar gyfer y cynigion sydd wedi'u cynnwys yn y ddogfen ymgynghori Strategaeth a Ffefrir, gan gynnwys y strategaeth gyffredinol ei hun a'r naw polisi strategol.

### Dim 'Effaith Sylweddol Debygol' a Ragwelir

**5.2** Ni ddisgwylir i'r polisiâu strategol canlynol arwain yn uniongyrchol at ddatblygiad newydd ac felly ni fyddant yn arwain at effeithiau sylweddol ar safleoedd Ewropeaidd:

- SP2: Creu lleoedd a chymunedau cynaliadwy
- SP3: Rheoli Perygl Llifogydd
- SP8: Canolfannau Aneddiadau

**5.3** Ni fydd y polisiâu canlynol yn arwain at ddatblygiad a byddant yn cyfrannu at sicrhau bod safleoedd Ewropeaidd yn cael eu diogelu (er nad yw unrhyw liniaru a ddarperir gan y polisiâu hyn wedi'i gymryd i ystyriaeth i lywio'r casgliadau Sgrinio ar gyfer polisiâu eraill, yn unol â barn Pobl dros y Gwynt):

- SP1: Newid yn yr Hinsawdd a Charbon
- SP4: Bioamrywiaeth a'r Amgylchedd Naturiol
- SP5: Seilwaith Gwyrdd a Gofod Agored

### Effeithiau Sylweddol Tebygol a Ragwelir

**5.4** Amlygir cydrannau canlynol y ddogfen Strategaeth a Ffefrir fel rhai sy'n arwain at ddatblygu a chael llwybrau effaith posibl i safleoedd Ewropeaidd. Felly, ni ellir diystyru effeithiau sylweddol tebygol:

- Strategaeth a Ffefrir (h.y. cyfanswm a dosbarthiad twf)
- Safle Allweddol 1 – Pentre Penrhys, Tylorstown
- Safle Allweddol 2 – Tir i'r Dde o Hirwaun
- Safle Allweddol 3 – Tir yn Llanilid
- Safle Allweddol 4 – Llanilltud Faerdref/Efail Isaf
- SP6: Tai
- SP7: Tir Cyflogaeth a'r Economi
- SP9: Twristiaeth

## Sgrinio Effeithiau

**5.5** Ar gyfer rhai mathau o effeithiau, penderfynwyd sgrinio ar gyfer Effeithiau Arwyddocaol Tebygol yn agosrwydd, gan ddefnyddio data GIS i bennu agosrwydd lleoliadau datblygu posibl i'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd sy'n destun yr asesiad. Fodd bynnag, mae llawer o ansicrwydd yn gysylltiedig â defnyddio pellteroedd penodol gan mai ychydig iawn o safonau sydd ar gael fel canllaw

i ba raddau y bydd yr effeithiau yn teithio. Felly, yn ystod y cam sgrinio mae nifer o ragdybiaethau wedi'u cymhwyso mewn perthynas ag asesu'r Effeithiau Arwyddocaol Tebygol ar safleoedd Ewropeaidd a allai ddeillio o'r cynllun, fel y disgrifir isod.

## Difrod corfforol a cholli cynefin (ar y safle)

**5.6** Byddai unrhyw ddatblygiad sy'n deillio o'r CDLI Diwygiedig yn digwydd o fewn ardal y CDLI. Felly, dim ond safleoedd Ewropeaidd o fewn ffin RhCT (ac eithrio'r Parc Cenedlaethol) a allai gael eu heffeithio gan ddifrod corfforol neu golli cynefin o fewn ffiniau safleoedd Ewropeaidd. Mae'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd canlynol wedi'u lleoli o fewn ffiniau ardal y Cynllun:

- ACA Coedydd Nedd a Mellte;
- ACA Coed Bedw Caerdydd; ac
- ACA Blaen Cynon.

**5.7** Mae'r holl safleoedd Ewropeaidd eraill wedi'u lleoli y tu allan i'r ardal a gwmpesir gan y CDLI Diwygiedig ac felly cânt eu sgrinio allan o'r asesiad mewn perthynas â difrod neu golled cynefinoedd ar y safle.

**5.8** Nid oes unrhyw Safleoedd Allweddol a gynigir yn y CDLI Diwygiedig o fewn ffiniau'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd hyn.

**Felly, ni ragwelir unrhyw effeithiau sylweddol tebygol ar safleoedd Ewropeaidd o ganlyniad i ddifrod corfforol ar y safle neu golli cynefin o'r datblygiad a gynigir yn y CDLI Diwygiedig, naill ai ar ei ben ei hun neu ar y cyd â chynlluniau a phrosiectau eraill.**

## Colli cynefin corfforol - cynefin sy'n gysylltiedig â swyddogaeth

**5.9** Gall colli cynefinoedd o ganlyniad i ddatblygiad mewn ardaloedd y tu allan i ffiniau'r safle Ewropeaidd hefyd arwain at effeithiau sylweddol tebygol lle mae'r cynefin hwnnw'n cyfrannu at gynnal y nodwedd ddiddordeb y mae'r safle Ewropeaidd wedi'i ddynodi ar ei chyfer. Mae hyn yn cynnwys tir a allai ddarparu coridorau symud oddi ar y safle neu gynefin bwydo a chysgod ar gyfer rhywogaethau symudol fel ystlumod, adar a physgod (cyfeirir ato fel arfer fel cynefin 'â chysylltiad swyddogaethol').

**5.10** Mae'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd canlynol wedi cael eu sgrinio allan o'r asesiad gan nad ydynt yn cefnogi nodweddion cymwys sy'n agored i golli cynefinoedd oddi ar y safle:

- ACA Coedydd Nedd a Mellte
- ACA Coetiroedd Melin Ddu
- ACA Bannau Brycheiniog (Gynt Brecon Beacons)
- ACA Bae Dunraven
- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr
- ACA Cynffig

**5.11** Mae'r potensial ar gyfer effeithiau ar gynefin sy'n gysylltiedig â swyddogaeth wedi'i ystyried lle mae safleoedd Ewropeaidd wedi'u dynodi ar gyfer rhywogaethau cymwys sy'n symudol. Mae hyn yn cynnwys:

- ACA Blaen Cynon – Glöyn byw brith y gors
- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed – Glöyn byw brith y gors
- AGA Aber Afon Hafren a Ramsar – Cydosodiad adar
- ACA Aber Afon Hafren – Cydosodiad pysgod
- ACA Afon Wysg – Cydosodiad pysgod; dyfrgi

### Colli cynefin corfforol – cynefin sy'n gysylltiedig â swyddogaeth – cydosodiad adar

**5.12** O'n profiad o waith HRA mewn mannau eraill, y pellter cydnabyddedig ar gyfer ystyried cynefin oddi ar y safle sy'n gysylltiedig â swyddogaeth ar gyfer adar yn gyffredinol yw 2km, ond i rai rhywogaethau, gan gynnwys y rhan fwyaf nodedig, y cwtiad euraidd a'r Cornchwiglen *Vanellus vanellus*, gall pellter mwy o 15km fod yn briodol. Gall pellteroedd uwch fod yn briodol lle mae nodweddion graddfa tirwedd sylweddol yn darparu cysylltiadau swyddogaethol pwysig â safleoedd Ewropeaidd, er enghraifft, lle mae gorlifdiroedd a dyffrynnoedd dalgyloch afonydd yn ymestyn cryn bellter o safle Ewropeaidd.

**5.13** Yr unig safle Ewropeaidd sy'n cefnogi rhywogaethau adar cymwys o fewn 15km i ffin RhCT yw AGA Aber Afon Hafren a Ramsar. Mae Natural England wedi gwneud gwaith helaeth ar ddefnyddio tir sydd wedi'i gysylltu'n swyddogaethol gan rywogaethau adar cymwys o AGA Aber Afon Hafren a Ramsar. O hyn, nodwyd bod llawer o'r rhywogaethau y mae safle AGA a Ramsar wedi'u dynodi ar eu cyfer yn dibynnu ar dir sydd â chysylltiad swyddogaethol yn nhirwedd ehangach Hafren ac Avon, sy'n destun llifogydd helaeth gan Afon Hafren ac Afon Avon. Lleolir ardal y Cynllun Lleol i'r gogledd-orllewin o safle AGA a Ramsar Aber Afon Hafren ac mae wedi'i lleoli y tu allan i dirwedd Hafren ac Avon tua 40km i'r dwyrain yn y man agosaf. Gan nad yw rhywogaethau adar cymwys AGA Aber Afon Hafren a Ramsar yn cynnwys cwtiad euraidd neu lapio ac nid yw RhCT yn dod o fewn tirwedd Hafren ac Avon, mae'r pellter o 2km wedi'i gymhwyso. Gan fod safle AGA a Ramsar Aber Afon Hafren wedi'u lleoli dros 2km o ffin RhCT (12.1km i'r de-ddwyrain), maent wedi cael eu sgrinio allan o effeithiau ar gynefin sydd â chysylltiad swyddogaethol.

### Colli cynefin corfforol - cynefin â chysylltiad swyddogaethol – infertebratau – Glöyn byw brith y gors

**5.14** Mae'r amcanion cadwraeth mewn perthynas â glöyn byw brith y gors yn cynnwys y datganiad y dylai'r safle gyfrannu tuag at gefnogi metaboblogaeth gynaliadwy o fritheg y gors yn ardaloedd Penderyn / Hirwaun ac Aberbargoed. Nodir y bydd hyn yn gofyn am o leiaf 50ha o gynefin addas, y mae'n rhaid i o leiaf 10ha ohono fod mewn cyflwr da. Mae cynefin addas yn cynnwys glaswelltiroedd llaith sy'n cael eu dominyddu gan glaswellt sy'n ffurfio dwffiau, glaswelltiroedd sialc a glaswelltiroedd arfordirol byrrach. Rhesymeg yw nad oes disgwyl i'r holl gynefin hwn gael ei ganfod o fewn yr ACA ac y bydd rhai ar dir cyfagos o fewn radiws o tua 2km.

#### ACA Blaen Cynon

**5.15** Mae ACA Blaen Cynon wedi'i leoli o fewn ffin RhCT ac mae wedi'i ddynodi ar gyfer ei phoblogaeth o glöyn byw brith y gors.

**5.16** Mae Safle Allweddol 2 o fewn 2km i ACA Blaen Cynon ac felly mae potensial i ddatblygu ar y safle allweddol hwn arwain at golled gorfforol a difrod i gynefinoedd oddi ar y safle sydd o bwys i gloyn byw brithyn y gors naill ai ar ei ben ei hun neu ar y cyd â chynlluniau a phrosiectau eraill.

#### ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed

**5.17** Mae ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed wedi'i leoli dros 4km i ffwrdd o ffin RhCT (h.y. dwywaith y pellter a ystyrir mewn perthynas â gofynion y metaboblogaeth). Fodd bynnag, mae gwybodaeth ddiweddar am rôl deinameg metaboblogaeth ar gyfer glöyn byw brith y gors yn dangos bod safleoedd o fewn RhCT sy'n darparu cysylltiadau critigol rhwng y dwyrain a'r gorllewin. Mae'r safleoedd hyn sydd â chynefin addas ar gyfer glöyn byw brithyn y gors wedi'u dynodi'n Safleoedd o Bwysigrwydd ar gyfer Cadwraeth Natur (SINCs) ac maent yn darparu rhwydwaith o dir sydd â chysylltiad swyddogaethol o fewn RhCT. O ystyried y rhwydwaith helaeth o SINCs o fewn RhCT, mae angen asesiad pellach i bennu'r potensial ar gyfer effeithiau sylweddol tebygol ar ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed o ganlyniad i golli cynefin cysylltiedig â swyddogaeth neu ddifrod iddo.

### Colli cynefin corfforol – cynefin sy'n gysylltiedig yn swyddogaethol – cydosodiad pysgod

**5.18** Mae poblogaethau pysgod mudol cymwys yn dibynnu ar gynefinoedd dŵr croyw afonydd Wysg, Gwy a Hafren yn ogystal â chynefinoedd aberoedd aber Aber Hafren yn ystod eu hoes<sup>26</sup>. O ystyried pellter yr afonydd hyn o ffin RhCT a'r gwahaniad ffisegol o ddalgylch Afon Wysg oherwydd topograffi gyda Bannau Brycheiniog i'r gogledd, mae'r potensial ar gyfer datblygiad o fewn RhCT i effeithio ar ymfudiad pysgod yn Afon Wysg, Gwy neu Afon Hafren yn cael ei sgrinio allan (ar gyfer ACA Aber Afon Hafren ac ACA Afon Wysg).

<sup>26</sup> ACA Aber Hafren, AGA a Safle Ramsar: Rheoliad 33 Cyngor gan CCW a Natural England, Mehefin 2009.

## Colli cynefin corfforol – cynefin sy'n gysylltiedig â swyddogaeth – Dyfrgwn

**5.19** Bydd unrhyw ddatblygiad sy'n deillio o'r CDLI wedi'i leoli o fewn ffin RhCT. Mae ACA Afon Wysg wedi'i lleoli 8.4km a 17km i ffwrdd o ffin RhCT yn y gogledd a'r dwyrain yn y drefn honno. Ar ben hynny, mae ACA Afon Wysg wedi'i gwahanu oddi wrth ffin RhCT gan y Bannau Brycheiniog i'r gogledd a nifer o ddatblygiadau trefol i'r dwyrain.

**5.20** Mae dyfrgwn yn ddibynnol iawn ar (ac felly'n debygol o fod yn agos at) gynefinoedd dyfrol/afonol. O ystyried y pellter rhwng ffin RhCT a ACA Afon Wysg, a'r dirwedd o'i chwmpas, mae'n annhebygol y bydd y boblogaeth ddyfrgwn sy'n gysylltiedig ag ACA Afon Wysg yn cael eu heffeithio gan ddatblygiadau sy'n dod ymlaen fel rhan o'r cynllun. Yn y modd hwn, gellir sgrinio colli cynefin sy'n gysylltiedig â swyddogaeth mewn perthynas â dyfrgwn.

**Felly, mae'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd canlynol wedi cael eu sgrinio i mewn ar gyfer Asesiad Priodol mewn perthynas â difrod corfforol a cholled mewn cynefin â chysylltiad swyddogaethol:**

- ACA Blaen Cynon; ac
- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargod.

## Aflonyddwch Anffisegol

**5.21** Mae effeithiau sŵn a dirgryniad, e.e. wrth adeiladu tai newydd neu ddatblygiadau eraill, yn fwyaf tebygol o darfu ar rywogaethau adar ac felly'n ystyriaeth allweddol mewn perthynas â safleoedd Ewropeaidd lle mai adar yw'r nodweddion cymwys, er y gall effeithiau o'r fath hefyd effeithio ar rai mamaliaid a rhywogaethau pysgod. Mae goleuadau artiffisial yn y nos (e.e. o lampau stryd, goleuadau mawr cryf a goleuadau diogelwch) yn fwyaf tebygol o effeithio ar boblogaethau ystlumod a rhai rhywogaethau adar nosol, ac felly'n cael effaith andwyol ar gyfanrwydd safleoedd Ewropeaidd lle mae ystlumod neu adar nosol yn nodwedd gymhwysol.

**5.22** Tybiwyd (yn rhagofalus ac yn seiliedig ar ein profiad o HRAs blaenorol ac ymgynghori â chyrrff statudol) y gall effeithiau sŵn, dirgryniad a llygredd golau achosi effaith andwyol os bydd datblygiad yn digwydd o fewn 500m i safle Ewropeaidd (neu gynefin â chysylltiad swyddogaethol) gyda nodweddion cymwys sy'n sensitif i'r aflonyddwch hyn. Mae'r dull hwn wedi'i gymhwyso i HRA o Gynlluniau Lleol ar gyfer nifer o awdurdodau lleol yn y DU ac ystyriwyd bod cymhwyso'r byffer hwn yn briodol ac yn unol ag egwyddor ragofalus. Ni chofnodwyd unrhyw safleoedd Ewropeaidd sy'n agored i effeithiau aflonyddwch anffisegol, o fewn 500m i RCT ac felly mae'r effaith hon wedi'i sgrinio allan o asesiad pellach.

**Felly, ni ragwelir unrhyw effaith sylweddol debygol ar safleoedd Ewropeaidd o ganlyniad i aflonyddwch anffisegol o'r datblygiad a gynigir yn y CDLI Diwygiedig naill ai ar ei ben ei hun neu ar y cyd â chynlluniau a phrosiectau eraill.**

## Aflonyddwch Anffisegol – Cynefin Swyddogaethol Gysylltiedig

**5.23** Gall aflonyddwch anffisegol hefyd effeithio'n andwyol ar rywogaethau cymwys mewn cynefin sy'n gysylltiedig â swyddogaethol. Fe'i sefydlwyd yn yr **adran Colli Cynefinoedd Ffisegol – Cynefin Cysylltiedig Swyddogaethol** uchod y gall y rhywogaethau cymwys canlynol ddefnyddio cynefin â chysylltiad swyddogaethol o fewn ffin RhCT:

- ACA Blaen Cynon – Glöyn byw brith y gors
- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed – Glöyn byw brith y gors
- AGA Aber Afon Hafren a Ramsar – Cydosodiad adar
- ACA Aber Afon Hafren – Cydosodiad pysgod
- ACA Afon Wysg – Cydosodiad pysgod; Dyfrgi

**5.24** Nid oedd pob safle Ewropeaidd arall yn cefnogi nodweddion cymwys sy'n dibynnu ar gynefin â chysylltiad swyddogaethol.

**5.25** Nid yw glöyn byw brith y gors yn agored i sŵn, dirgryniad a/neu lygredd golau ac felly mae ACA BlaenCynon a Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed wedi cael eu sgrinio allan.

**5.26** Fe'i sefydlwyd yn yr adran **Colli Cynefin Ffisegol – Swyddogaethol Gysylltiedig Cynefin** uchod ac o ystyried pellter SA ACA Aber Afon Hafren a Ramsar ac Afon Wysg a'r dirwedd gyfagos, roedd yn annhebygol iawn i bysgod cymwys, dyfrgwn a chydosodiadau adar gael eu heffeithio gan ddatblygiadau sy'n dod ymlaen fel rhan o'r cynllun. O ystyried mai dim ond hyd at 500m o ddatblygiad y mae aflonyddwch anffisegol yn effeithio, mae'r pellter yn parhau i fod yn rhy fawr i gael effaith ac felly mae'r safleoedd hyn wedi'u sgrinio mewn perthynas ag aflonyddwch anffisegol mewn cynefin sy'n gysylltiedig â swyddogaethol.

**Felly, ni ragwelir unrhyw effaith sylweddol debygol i safleoedd Ewropeaidd o ganlyniad i aflonyddwch anffisegol mewn cynefin swyddogaethol gysylltiedig â datblygiad a gynigir yn y CDLI Diwygiedig naill ai ar ei ben ei hun neu ar y cyd â chynlluniau a phrosiectau eraill.**

## Halogiad Diwenwyn

**5.27** Gall halogiad nad yw'n wenwynig gynnwys creu llwch sy'n gallu mygu cynefinoedd sy'n atal prosesau naturiol, a gall hefyd arwain at effeithiau sy'n gysylltiedig â mwy o waddodion a llwch a all effeithio ar gynnwrf cynefinoedd dyfrol, a gall hefyd gyfrannu at gyfoethogi maetholion a all arwain at newidiadau yng nghyfradd olyniaeth llystyfiant a chyfansoddiad cynefin.

**5.28** Mae effeithiau halogi nad ydynt yn wenwynig yn fwyaf tebygol o fod yn arwyddocaol os bydd datblygiad yn digwydd o fewn 500m i safle Ewropeaidd sy'n nodweddion cymwys sy'n sensitif i'r aflonyddwch hyn, megis cynefinoedd glannau a gwlyptiroedd, neu safleoedd sydd wedi'u dynodi ar gyfer cynefinoedd a rhywogaethau planhigion. Dyma'r pellter sydd, yn ein profiad, yn darparu asesiad cadarn o effeithiau mewn HRA ar lefel cynllun.

**5.29** Yr unig safle Ewropeaidd o fewn 500m i unrhyw un o'r Safleoedd Allweddol yw Blaen Cynon ACA, sy'n ffinio â Safle Allweddol 2: Tir i'r de o Hirwaun. Mae'r ACA hwn wedi'i ddynodi ar gyfer ei phoblogaeth o glöyn byw brith cors sydd, er nad ydynt yn agored i halogiad nad yw'n wenwynig, mae'r cynefinoedd ar y safle y maent yn dibynnu arnynt, gan gynnwys corsydd iseldir, glaswelltir corsiog, glaswelltir niwtral a phorfeydd a rhostiroedd llaith yn sensitif i effeithiau halogiad nad yw'n wenwynig.

**5.30** Felly, mae potensial i ddatblygu yn Safle Allweddol 2 arwain at halogi cynefinoedd o bwysigrwydd nad ydynt yn wenwynig i gorsydd glöyn byw brith naill ai ar ei ben ei hun neu ar y cyd â chynlluniau a phrosiectau eraill.

**Felly, mae'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd canlynol wedi cael eu sgrinio i'w hasesu yn y cam asesu priodol mewn perthynas â halogiad nad yw'n wenwynig:**

- ACA Blaen Cynon

## Halogiad nad yw'n wenwynig – cynefin swyddogaethol gysylltiedig

**5.31** Gall halogiad nad yw'n wenwynig hefyd effeithio'n andwyol ar nodweddion cymwys mewn cynefinoedd sydd â chysylltiad swyddogaethol. Fe'i sefydlwyd yn yr **adran Colli Cynefinoedd Ffisegol – Cynefin Cysylltiedig Swyddogaethol** uchod y gall y rhywogaethau cymwys canlynol ddefnyddio cynefin â chysylltiad swyddogaethol o fewn ffin RhCT:

- ACA Blaen Cynon – Glöyn byw brith y gors
- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed – Glöyn byw brith y gors
- AGA Aber Afon Hafren a Ramsar – Cydosodiad adar
- ACA Aber Afon Hafren – Cydosodiad pysgod
- ACA Afon Wysg – Cydosodiad pysgod; Dyfrgi

### ACA Blaen Cynon ac ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed

**5.32** Mae dewisiadau cynefin ar gyfer glöyn byw brith y gors cymwys yn cynnwys corysdd iseldir, glaswelltir corsiog, glaswelltir niwtral a phorfeydd llaith a rhostiroedd sy'n sensitif i effeithiau halogiad nad yw'n wenwynig.

**5.33** Fel y'i sefydlwyd yn yr adran Cynefin **Ffisegol Colli Cynefin – Swyddogaethol Gysylltiedig uchod**, mae ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed wedi'i leoli dros 4km i ffwrdd o ffin RhCT (h.y. dwywaith y pellter a ystyrir mewn perthynas â gofynion y metaboblogaeth). Fodd bynnag, mae gwybodaeth ddiweddar am rôl deinameg metaboblogaeth ar gyfer glöyn byw brith y gors yn dangos bod safleoedd o fewn RhCT sy'n darparu cysylltiadau critigol rhwng y dwyrain a'r gorllewin. Mae'r safleoedd hyn sydd â chynefin addas ar gyfer glöyn byw brith y gors wedi'u dynodi'n Safleoedd o Bwysigrwydd ar gyfer Cadwraeth Natur (SINCs) ac maent yn darparu rhwydwaith o dir sydd â chysylltiad swyddogaethol o fewn RhCT. O ystyried y rhwydwaith helaeth o SINCs yn RhCT, mae angen asesiad pellach i bennu potensial effeithiau sylweddol tebygol ar ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed a ACA Blaen Cynon o ganlyniad i halogi cynefin sy'n gysylltiedig â swyddogaeth nad yw'n wenwynig.

### AGA Aber Afon Hafren a Ramsar

**5.34** Mae cynefin rhywogaethau adar cymwys yn cynnwys tir fferm, glaswelltir, llynnoedd, pyllau, gwlyptiroedd ac afonydd. Mae cynefinoedd dyfrol yn sensitif i halogiad nad yw'n wenwynig. Fel y'i sefydlwyd yn yr **adran Colli Cynefin Ffisegol – Swyddogaethol Gysylltiedig Cynefin uchod**, o ystyried pellter y safle Ewropeaidd o ffin RhCT, gellir dangos y safle hwn. Felly, ni ragwelir unrhyw effaith sylweddol debygol i AGA Aber Afon Hafren a Ramsar o ganlyniad i halogiad nad yw'n wenwynig mewn cynefin â chysylltiad swyddogaethol naill ai ar ei ben ei hun neu ar y cyd â chynlluniau a phrosiectau eraill.

### ACA Aber Afon Hafren ac ACA Afon Wysg

**5.35** Mae dewisiadau cynefinoedd ar gyfer rhywogaethau pysgod cymwys yn cynnwys cynefinoedd dyfrol a gwlyptir. Mae cynefinoedd dyfrol yn sensitif i halogiad nad yw'n wenwynig.

**5.36** Fe'i sefydlwyd yn yr adran **Colli Cynefin Ffisegol – Swyddogaethol Gysylltiedig Cynefin uchod** ac o ystyried pellter ACA Aber Hafren ac Afon Wysg a'r dirwedd gyfagos, roedd yn annhebygol iawn y bydd datblygiadau sy'n dod ymlaen fel rhan o'r cynllun yn effeithio ar bysgod a dyfrgwn cymwys. O ystyried bod halogiad nad yw'n wenwynig ond yn effeithio hyd at 500m o'i ddatblygiad, mae'r pellter yn parhau i fod yn rhy fawr i gael effaith ac felly mae'r safleoedd hyn wedi'u sgrinio mewn perthynas ag aflonyddwch anffisegol mewn cynefin â chysylltiad swyddogaethol.

**Felly, mae'r safle Ewropeaidd canlynol wedi'i sgrinio i mewn ar gyfer Asesiad Priodol mewn perthynas â halogiad nad yw'n wenwynig mewn cynefin â chysylltiad swyddogaethol:**

- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed; ac
- ACA Blaen Cynon

### Llygredd Aer

**5.37** Mae llygredd aer yn fwyaf tebygol o effeithio ar safleoedd Ewropeaidd lle mae cynefinoedd planhigion, pridd a dŵr yw'r nodweddion cymwys, ond gall rhai rhywogaethau anifeiliad cymwys fael eu heffeithio, nail ai'n uniongrychol neu'n anuniongrychol, gan unrhyw ddirywiad mewn cynefin o ganlyniad llygredd aer. Gall dyddodiad llygryddion l'r ddaer a llystyfaint newid modweddion y pridd, gan effeithio ar argaeledd PH a Nitrogen (N) a all wedyn effeithio ar iechyd planhigion, cynhyrchiant a chyfansoddiad. Rhywogarthau, mae gan bob un o'r safleoedd gynefinoedd neu rywogaethau planhigion a/neu ddŵr fel eu nodwedd gymhysol.

**5.38** Mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd sy'n cael eu hystyried fel rhan o'r asesiad hwn yn cael eu nodi trwy eu Cynlluniau Gwella Safle/Cynlluniau Rheoli Craidd fel rhai sensitif i llygredd aer:

- ACA Blaen Cynon;
- ACA Coedydd Nedd a Mellte;
- ACA Cwm Cadlan;

- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed;
- ACA Coetiroedd Melin Ddu;
- ACA Bannau Brycheiniog;
- ACA Coed Beech Caerdydd;
- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr;
- ACA Cynffig;
- ACA Aber Afon Hafren; ac
- AAA/Ramsar Aber Afon Hafren.

**5.39** O ran traffig cerbydau, ystyrir mai ocsidiau nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>, hy NO a NO<sub>2</sub>) yw'r llygryddion allweddol. Gall dyddodiad cyfansoddion nitrogen arwain at asideiddio pridd a dŵr croyw, a gall NO<sub>x</sub> achosi ewtroffeiddio priddoedd a dŵr. Bydd yr HRA yn cyfeirio at System Gwybodaeth Llygredd Awyr y DU<sup>27</sup> i benderfynu a yw crynodiadau o NO<sub>x</sub> ar safleoedd Ewrop yn fwy na llwythi critigol ai peidio ar hyn o bryd.

**5.40** Yn seiliedig ar Gynllun Asiantaeth Priffyrdd ar gyfer Ffyrdd a Phontydd (DMRB) LA 105: Ansawdd Aer (<sup>28</sup> sy'n nodi'r gofynion ar gyfer asesu ac adrodd ar effeithiau prosiectau priffyrdd ar ansawdd aer), tybir nad yw llygredd aer o ffyrdd yn debygol o fod yn sylweddol y tu hwnt i 200m o'r ffordd ei hun. Pan ragwelir cynnydd yng nghyfeintiau traffig, mae angen cymhwyso'r glustog 200m hon ar y ffyrdd perthnasol er mwyn llunio barn ynghylch maint daearyddol tebygol yr effeithiau ar lygredd aer.

**5.41** Mae'r Canllawiau DMRB ar gyfer asesu ansawdd aer lleol mewn perthynas â datblygiadau priffyrdd yn darparu meini prawf y dylid eu cymhwyso i ganfod a oes effeithiau sylweddol yn debygol o fod yn gysylltiedig â llwybrau neu goridorau. Yn seiliedig ar y canllawiau DMRB, ffyrdd yr effeithir arnynt y dylid eu hasesu yw'r rhai lle:

- Bydd llif traffig dyddiol yn newid 1,000 AADT (Traffig Dyddiol Cyfartalog Blynnyddol) neu fwy; neu
- Bydd llif cerbydau trwm (HDV) yn newid 200 AADT neu fwy; neu
- Bydd cyflymder cyfartalog dyddiol yn newid 10 km/awr neu fwy; neu
- Bydd cyflymder oriau brig yn newid 20 km/awr neu fwy; neu
- Bydd alinio y ffordd yn newid o 5 metr neu fwy.

**5.42** Yn unol â dyfarniad Wealden<sup>29</sup>, mae ymgyngoreion statudol bellach yn disgwyl gweld effeithiau llygredd aer cyfunol yn cael eu hasesu. Awgrym y dyfarniad yw, lle mae effeithiau traffig ffyrdd cynlluniau neu brosiectau eraill yn hysbys neu y gellir eu hamcangyfrif yn rhesymol (gan gynnwys rhai cynlluniau mabwysiedig neu brosiectau cydsyniadol), yna dylid cynnwys y rhain mewn modelu traffig ffyrdd gan yr awdurdod lleol y mae ei gynllun neu brosiect lleol yn cael ei asesu. Yna dylid cymhwyso meini prawf sgrinio 1,000 AADT i lif traffig y cynlluniau ar y cyd.

**5.43** Tybiwyd mai dim ond y ffyrdd hynny sy'n rhan o'r rhwydwaith ffyrdd cynradd (traffyrdd a ffyrdd 'A') a allai fod yn debygol o brofi unrhyw gynnydd sylweddol mewn traffig cerbydau o ganlyniad i ddatblygiad (hy mwy na 1,000 AADT ac ati). Oherwydd hynny, lle mae safle o fewn 200m i ddim ond mân ffyrdd, ni ystyrir mai unrhyw effaith sylweddol o lygredd aer sy'n gysylltiedig â thraffig yw'r canlyniad tebygol.

**5.44** Felly bydd angen data rhagolygon traffig (yn seiliedig ar y lefel twf arfaethedig) i benderfynu a fydd cynnydd mewn traffig cerbydau yn ac o amgylch RhCT yn debygol o fod yn arwyddocaol o ganlyniad i'r CDLI Diwygiedig, naill ai ar ei ben ei hun neu ar y cyd â chynlluniau neu brosiectau eraill.

**5.45** Ar gyfer pob un o'r safleoedd Ewropeidd y nodwyd eu bod yn sensitif i lygredd aer, defnyddiwyd dadansoddiad GIS i asesu a ydyn nhw (neu eu cynefinoedd â chysylltiad swyddogaethol, os yw'n berthnasol) o fewn 200m i ffordd fawr. Mewn rhai achosion,

<sup>27</sup> <http://www.apis.ac.uk/>

<sup>28</sup> [https://www.standardsforhighways.co.uk/dmrb/search?discipline=SUSTAINABILITY\\_AND\\_ENVIRONMENT](https://www.standardsforhighways.co.uk/dmrb/search?discipline=SUSTAINABILITY_AND_ENVIRONMENT)

<sup>29</sup> Cyngor Dosbarth Wealden v. (1) Ysgrifennydd Gwladol dros Gymunedau a Llywodraeth Leol; (2) Cyngor Dosbarth Lewes; (3) Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol South Downs a Natural England



efallai y bydd modd sgrinio safleoedd os yw'n amlwg nad yw llawer iawn o draffig a gynhyrchir o fewn RhCT yn debygol o basio'r safle (er enghraifft defnyddio data<sup>30</sup> ar batrymau cymudo).

**5.46** Mae ffyrdd strategol o fewn ffin RhCT a byffer 15km yn cynnwys traffordd yr M4 a 47 o ffyrdd 'A', a amlygir yn **Ffigur E-1, Atodiad E**. Darperir safleoedd Ewropeaidd sydd o fewn 200m i ffordd strategol yn **Nhabl 5.1** isod.

**Tabl 5.1: Safleoedd Ewropeaidd wedi'u lleoli o fewn 200m I ffordd strategol**

Gwefan Ewropeaidd	Ffordd Strategol
ACA Blaen Cynon	A4059
	A465
ACA Coedydd Need a Mellte	A4109
	A465
ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed	A4049
ACA Coetiroedd Melin Ddu	A4061
	A4093
ACA Bannau Brycheiniog	A470
ACA Coed Beech Caerdydd	A4054
	A470
ACA Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr	M4
ACA Aber Afon Hafren, AAA a Ramsar	A4232

**5.47** Mae pob un o'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd eraill wedi'u lleoli dros 200m o ffyrdd strategol ac felly maent yn cael eu sgrinio.

### Data Traffig

**5.48** Er mwyn pennu effeithiau llygredd aer mewn perthynas â datblygiad arfaethedig o fewn y CDLI Diwygiedig, mae angen ffigurau AADT traffig ffyrdd ar gyfer y ffyrdd canlynol lle maent yn pasio o fewn 200m i'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd uchod: A4059, A465, A4109, A4049, A4061, A4093, A470, A4054, M4 a'r A4232.

**5.49** Bydd angen modelu data traffig ar raddfa sirol gyfan i lywio'r Asesiad Priodol. Yna bydd modd penderfynu a fydd y trothwyon sgrinio yn uwch naill ai o'r CDLI Diwygiedig yn unig neu ar y cyd â chynlluniau a phrosiectau eraill. Os eir y tu hwnt i drothwyon AADT, bydd yn ofynnol i fodelu ansawdd aer ddeall a fydd y CDLI Diwygiedig yn arwain at effaith andwyol ar uniondeb ac a ellir cymhwyso mesurau osgoi a lliniaru a fyddai'n atal effeithiau andwyol ar uniondeb.

**Felly, mae'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd canlynol wedi cael eu sgrinio i mewn ar gyfer Asesiad Priodol mewn perthynas â llygredd aer:**

- ACA Blaen Cynon;
- ACA Coedydd Nedd a Mellte;

<sup>30</sup> UCLThe Afon Uk DataShine Data Cymudo: <https://commute.datashine.org.uk/>



- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed;
- ACA Coetiroedd Melin Ddu;
- ACA Bannau Brycheiniog;
- ACA Coed Beech Caerdydd;
- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr;
- ACA Aber Afon Hafren; ac
- AAA/Ramsar Aber Afon Hafren.

## Llygredd Aer – cynefin sy'n gysylltiedig yn swyddogaethol

**5.50** Gall llygredd aer hefyd effeithio'n andwyol ar nodweddion cymwys mewn cynefinoedd sy'n gysylltiedig â swyddogaethol. Fe'i sefydlwyd yn yr **adran Colli Cynefinoedd Ffisegol – Cynefin Cysylltiedig Swyddogaethol** uchod y gall y rhywogaethau cymwys canlynol ddefnyddio cynefin â chysylltiad swyddogaethol o fewn ffin RhCT:

- ACA Blaen Cynon – Glöyn byw brith y gors
- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed – Glöyn byw brith y gors
- AAA a Ramsar Aber Afon Hafren – Cydosodiad adar
- ACA Aber Afon Hafren – Cydosodiad pysgod
- ACA Afon Wysg – Fish assemblage; Otter

**5.51** Mae ACA Afon Wysg wedi cael ei sgrinio allan o'r asesiad hwn gan nad yw wedi'i nodi fel un sensitif i lygredd aer.

**5.52** Mae ACA Aber Afon Hafren wedi'i sgrinio allan gan ei fod wedi'i sefydlu yn yr adran **Colli Cynefin Ffisegol – Swyddogaethol Gysylltiedig Cynefin** uchod ac o ystyried pellter ACA Aber Afon Hafren a'r dirwedd gyfagos, roedd yn annhebygol iawn y bydd datblygiadau yn dod ymlaen fel rhan o'r cynllun yn effeithio ar bysgod a dyfrgwn cymwys.

**5.53** Nododd adolygiad o ffyrdd strategol y safleoedd Ewropeaidd canlynol gyda ffyrdd strategol o fewn 200m i'r 2km a sefydlwyd yn yr adran **Colli Cynefin Ffisegol – Swyddogaethol Gysylltiedig â Chynefin** uchod:

**Tabl 5.2: Safleoedd Ewropeaidd wedi'u lleoli o fewn 2.2km I ffordd strategol**

Gwefan Ewropeaidd	Ffordd Strategol
ACA Blaen Cynon	A4061
ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed	A4048
	A469
AAA a Ramsar Aber Afon Hafren	M4
	A4055
	A4119
	A4160
	A4161
	A4234
	A466
	A469
	A470

Gwefan Ewropeaidd	Ffordd Strategol
	A48
	M48

### Data Traffig

**5.54** Yn ogystal â'r ffyrdd a nodwyd ym **mharagraff 5.48**, i bennu effeithiau llygredd aer ar dir sydd â chysylltiad swyddogaethol mewn perthynas â datblygiad arfaethedig o fewn y CDLI diwygiedig, mae angen ffigurau AADT traffig ffyrdd ar gyfer y ffyrdd canlynol lle maent yn pasio o fewn 2.2km i'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd yn **Nhabl 5.2** uchod: A4061, A4048, A469, M4, A4055, A4119, A4160, A4161, A4234, A466, A469, A470, A48 a'r M48.

**Felly, mae'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd canlynol wedi cael eu sgrinio i mewn i'w hasesu yn y cam Asesiad Priodol mewn perthynas â llygredd aer ar gynefin sydd â chysylltiad swyddogaethol:**

- ACA Blaen Cynon;
- ACA Aberbargoed Grasslands ACA; and
- AAA a Ramsar Aber Afon Hafren.

### Effeithiau hamdden a threfol

**5.55** Gall gweithgareddau hamdden a phresenoldeb dynol arwain at effeithiau sylweddol ar safleoedd Ewropeaidd o ganlyniad i erydiad a sathru, effeithiau cysylltiedig fel tân a fandaliaeth neu aflonyddwch i nodweddion sensitif, fel adar trwy ffurfiau hamdden daearol a dŵr.

**5.56** Bydd y CDLI Diwygiedig yn arwain at dwf tai a chynnydd cysylltiedig yn y boblogaeth o fewn ffin RhCT. Lle mae cynnydd yn y boblogaeth yn debygol o arwain at gynnydd sylweddol mewn hamdden ar safle Ewropeaidd, naill ai ar ei ben ei hun neu mewn cyfuniad, bydd angen asesu'r potensial ar gyfer effeithiau sylweddol tebygol. Mae'r Strategaeth a Ffeirir yn nodi gofynion tai newydd o 8,450 ar draws cyfnod cynllun diwygiedig y CDLI.

**5.57** Mae safleoedd Ewropeaidd sydd â rhywogaethau adar cymwys yn debygol o fod yn arbennig o agored i aflonyddwch hamdden o gerdded, cerdded cŵn, pysgota, defnydd anghyfreithlon o gerbydau a beiciau modur oddi ar y ffordd, adar gwyllt a chwaraeon dŵr. Felly, mae gan gynnydd mewn pwysau hamdden o ddatblygiad y potensial i darfu ar boblogaethau adar o safleoedd AGA a Ramsar o ganlyniad i hamdden daearol a dŵr.

**5.58** Yn ogystal, gall hamdden niweidio cynefin yn gorfforol o ganlyniad i sathru a hefyd drwy erydiad sy'n gysylltiedig â golchi cychod a gweithgareddau daearol fel defnyddio cerbydau.

**5.59** Fel arfer, bydd gan bob safle Ewropeaidd 'Parth Dylanwad' (ZOI) lle byddai disgwyl i gynnydd yn y boblogaeth arwain at effeithiau sylweddol tebygol. Mae ZOIs fel arfer yn cael eu sefydlu yn dilyn arolygon ymwelwyr wedi'u targedu ac felly mae'r canfyddiadau fel arfer yn benodol i bob safle Ewropeaidd (ac yn aml i ardaloedd penodol o fewn safle Ewropeaidd). Mae'r canfyddiadau'n debygol o gael eu dylanwadu gan nifer o ffactorau cymhleth a rhyngweithio, ac felly nid yw bob amser yn briodol cymhwyso ZOI generig neu amhenodol i safle Ewropeaidd. Mae hyn yn arbennig o wir mewn perthynas â safleoedd arfordirol Ewrop, sydd â'r potensial i ddenu nifer fawr o ymwelwyr o ardaloedd llawer pellach i ffwrdd.

**5.60** Yn wahanol i safleoedd arfordirol Ewrop, mae'r ZOI ar gyfer safleoedd nad ydynt yn rhai arfordirol Ewropeaidd fel arfer yn llai amrywiol, gydag ymwelwyr yn teithio o ardaloedd sy'n fwy lleol i safle. Er bod y safleoedd hyn yn unigryw yn eu rhinwedd eu hunain, maent yn tueddu i beidio â chael yr un atyniad â safleoedd arfordirol a gyda gweithgareddau hamdden yn haws eu rheoli a'u cyfeirio at fannau gwyrdd amgen yn yr ardal. Gan ddefnyddio dull rhagofalus ac yn seiliedig ar Arolwg Hamdden Awyr Agored Cymru 2014<sup>31</sup>, defnyddiwyd ZOI o 8km ar gyfer safleoedd nad ydynt yn rhai arfordirol Ewropeaidd lle nad oes ZOI amgen ar gael. Mae'r ZOI 8km sy'n deillio o ddata'r Arolwg Hamdden Awyr Agored yn ymwneud â'r pellter o '1 i 5 milltir' y mae 75% o ymwelwyr

<sup>31</sup>Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru (2015). Arolwg Hamdden Awyr Agored Cymru 2014: Adroddiad Terfynol. Cyhoeddwyd: Gorffennaf 2015

o Gymru yn teithio i gyrraedd amgylchedd naturiol. Mae ZOIs fel arfer yn seiliedig ar y pellter y mae 75% o ymwelwyr yn teithio ohono; Felly, ystyrir bod 8km yn debygol o gynrychioli ZOI rhagofalus iawn yn yr asesiad hwn, ac un y gellir ei addasu ar ôl i wybodaeth newydd ddod i'r amlwg.

**5.61** Cafodd y safleoedd Ewropeaidd canlynol eu sgrinio allan o asesiad pellach yn seiliedig ar naill ai ddiffyg sensitifrwydd neu bellter, profiad perthnasol a barn broffesiynol:

- ACA Bae Dunraven;
- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr; ac
- ACA Afon Wysg.

**5.62** Crynhoir y gwaith arolygu ymwelwyr presennol sydd ar gael ar gyfer pob safle Ewropeaidd arall yn **Nhabl 5.1 isod**.

**Tabl 5.3: Parth Dylanwad (PD) yn deillio o waith arolygu ymwelwyr presennol**

Gwefan Ewropeaidd	PD
ACA Coedydd Nedd a Mellte	8km*
ACA Blaen Cynon	8km*
ACA Cwm Cadlan	8km*
ACA Coetiroedd Melin Ddu	8km*
ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed	8km*
ACA Bannau Brycheiniog	8km*
ACA Coed Beech Caerdydd	8km*
ACA Cynffig	8km*
ACA Aber Afon Hafren	7.7km <sup>32</sup>
AGA/Ramsar Aber Afon Hafren	7.7km <sup>35</sup>

\*Tybir 8km fel y manylir ym mharagraff 5.48.

**5.63** Mae ACA, AGA a Ramsar Aber Hafren, yn gorwedd 12.1km i'r de-ddwyrain o ffin RhCT ac mae ACA Cynffig 9.5km i'r de-orllewin o'r ffin. Felly, nid yw'r ZOIs ar gyfer y safleoedd hyn yn ymestyn i ffin RhCT felly mae'r safleoedd hyn wedi'u sgrinio allan o'r asesiad.

**5.64** Penderfynodd adolygiad o'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd sy'n weddill a'u ZOI hamdden nad oes gan y safleoedd Ewropeaidd canlynol ZOI hamdden sy'n ymestyn i'r safleoedd allweddol ac felly y gellir eu sgrinio allan o asesiad pellach:

- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed

**5.65** Mae gan bob safle Ewropeaidd arall PD sy'n cynnwys o leiaf un Safle Allweddol fel y dangosir yn **Nhabl 5.2**:

**Tabl 5.4: Safleoedd allweddol sy'n dod o fewn safleoedd Ewropeaidd PD**

Gwefan Ewropeaidd	Safle Allweddol
ACA Coedydd Nedd a Mellte	Safle Allweddol 2 – Tir i'r de o Hirwaun
ACA Blaen Cynon	Safle Allweddol 2 – Tir i'r de o Hirwaun

<sup>32</sup> EPR (2016) Adroddiad Arolygu Ymwelwyr Aber Afon Hafren (Ardal Stroud)

Gwefan Ewropeaidd	Safle Allweddol
ACA Cwm Cadlan	Safle Allweddol 2 – Tir i'r de o Hirwaun
ACA Bannau Brycheiniog	Safle Allweddol 2 – Tir i'r de o Hirwaun
ACA Coetiroedd Melin Ddu	Safle Allweddol 3 – Tir yn Llanilid
ACA Coed Beech Caerdydd	Key Site 4 – Llanilltud Faerdref/Efail Isaf

**5.66** Cofnododd arolwg ymwelwyr ar gyfer ACA Bannau Brycheiniog<sup>33</sup> fod 8% o ymwelwyr Cymru yn dod o RhCT, gydag ymwelwyr yn dod o bob rhan o Gymru, Lloegr a thramor. O ystyried y gyfran fechan o ymwelwyr a deithiodd o RhCT, ystyrir ei bod yn annhebygol y bydd y datblygiad arfaethedig o fewn y CDLI Diwygiedig yn cynyddu'n sylweddol aflonyddwch hamdden ar y Safle hwn. Fodd bynnag, mae'r safle hwn wedi cael ei sgrinio ar hyn o bryd hyd nes y gellir adolygu tystiolaeth bellach, a bod camau lliniaru wedi'u hystyried yn y cam Asesu Priodol, o ystyried tynnu'r safle i ymwelwyr.

**Felly, mae'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd canlynol wedi cael eu sgrinio i mewn ar gyfer cam Asesiad Priodol mewn perthynas â phwysau hamdden:**

- **ACA Coedydd Nedd a Mellte;**
- **ACA Blaen Cynon;**
- **ACA Cwm Cadlan;**
- **ACA Blackmill Woodlands; ac**
- **ACA Coed Beech Caerdydd.**

## Nifer y Dŵr

**5.67** Gallai cynnydd yn y galw am dynnu dŵr o ganlyniad i'r twf a gynigir yn y CDLI Diwygiedig arwain at newidiadau mewn hydroleg ar safleoedd Ewropeaidd. Yn dibynnu ar nodweddion cymwys a gwendidau penodol y safleoedd Ewropeaidd, gallai hyn arwain at effeithiau sylweddol tebygol, er enghraifft oherwydd newidiadau mewn amodau amgylcheddol neu fiotig, cemeg dŵr a maint a dosbarthiad yr amodau cynefinoedd a ffeifrir.

**5.68** Mae gan y safleoedd canlynol nodweddion cymwys sy'n sensitif i newidiadau yn nifer y dŵr:

- ACA Blaen Cynon;
- ACA Coedydd Nedd a Mellte;
- ACA Cwm Cadlan;
- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed;
- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr;
- ACA Cynffig;
- ACA Aber Afon Hafren;
- AAA a safle Ramsar Aber Afon Hafren; ac
- ACA Afon Wysg.

<sup>33</sup> Strategic Research and Insight Ltd (2017). Arolwg Ymwelwyr Parc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog 2016-17.

**5.69** Sgriniwyd pob safle Ewropeaidd arall gan nad yw eu nodweddion cymwys yn cael eu hystyried yn sensitif i newidiadau yn nifer y dŵr.

**5.70** Mae safleoedd Ewropeaidd sydd â'r potensial i gael eu heffeithio gan newidiadau mewn maint neu ansawdd dŵr yn debygol o fod yn safleoedd sydd o fewn ffin RhCT neu'r rhai sydd wedi'u cysylltu'n hydrolegol â Safleoedd Allweddol yn y CDLI Diwygiedig. Mae pob un o'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd uchod naill ai o fewn ffin RhCT neu ni ellid diystyru cysylltiadau hydrolegol â ffin RhCT.

#### **ACA Blaen Cynon ACA ac ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed**

**5.71** Mae ACA Blaen Cynon a Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed yn cefnogi glöyn byw brith y gors, sy'n dibynnu ar laswelltiroedd llaith sy'n cael eu dominyddu gan laswelltiroedd sy'n ffurfio glaswellt, glaswelltiroedd sialc a glaswelltiroedd arfordirol byrrach. Mae'r cynefinoedd hyn wedi'u cysylltu'n hydrolegol â chyrsgiau dŵr yn RhCT ac felly maent yn agored i newidiadau mewn maint dŵr o ganlyniad i'r galw cynyddol mewn tynnu dŵr o dwf arfaethedig yn RhCT.

**5.72** Felly, mae potensial i effeithiau sylweddol tebygol o newidiadau yn nifer y dŵr ddigwydd yn ACA Blaen Cynon a Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed ac felly mae angen ystyried hyn ymhellach fel rhan o'r Asesiad Priodol.

#### **Coedydd Nedd a Mellte ACA**

**5.73** Mae'r ACA yn cefnogi hen goed derw sessile a choedwigoedd Tilio-Acerion o lethrau, screes a ceunentydd. Mae'r cynefinoedd cymwys hyn yn dibynnu ar briddoedd gyda draenio neu fflysio rhwystredig, glaswelltir corsiog a rhostir gwlyb. Mae'r cynefinoedd hyn wedi'u cysylltu'n hydrolegol â chyrsgiau dŵr yn RhCT ac felly maent yn agored i newidiadau mewn maint dŵr o ganlyniad i'r galw cynyddol mewn tynnu dŵr o dwf arfaethedig yn RhCT.

**5.74** Felly, mae potensial i effeithiau sylweddol tebygol o newidiadau yn nifer y dŵr ddigwydd yn Coedydd Angen ACA Mellte ac felly mae angen ystyriaeth bellach fel rhan o'r Asesiad Priodol.

#### **ACA Cwm Cadlan**

**5.75** Mae'r ACA yn cefnogi *dolydd Molinia* ar briddoedd calchaid, mawnog neu glai silt-llwythog a ffens alcalïaidd. Mae'r cynefinoedd hyn wedi'u cysylltu'n hydrolegol â chyrsgiau dŵr yn RhCT ac felly maent yn agored i newidiadau mewn maint dŵr o ganlyniad i'r galw cynyddol mewn tynnu dŵr o dwf arfaethedig yn RhCT.

**5.76** Felly, mae potensial i effeithiau sylweddol tebygol o newidiadau yn nifer y dŵr ddigwydd yn ACA Cwm Cadlan ac felly mae angen ystyriaeth bellach fel rhan o'r Asesiad Priodol.

#### **ACA Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr**

**5.77** Mae'r ACA yn cefnogi *dolydd ffin Molinia* sy'n agored i newidiadau mewn maint dŵr o ganlyniad i'r galw cynyddol mewn tynnu dŵr o dwf arfaethedig yn RhCT.

**5.78** Felly, mae potensial i effeithiau sylweddol tebygol o newidiadau yn nifer y dŵr ddigwydd yn ACA Cefn Cribwr Glaswelltiroedd ac felly mae angen ystyriaeth bellach fel rhan o'r Asesiad Priodol.

#### **ACA Cynffig**

**5.79** Mae ACA Cynffig yn cefnogi twyni, llyn alcalïaidd arfordirol a dolydd halen sy'n cynnal rhywogaethau gan gynnwys tegeirian petalwort a ffen. Mae'r cynefinoedd hyn wedi'u cysylltu'n hydrolegol â chyrsgiau dŵr yn RhCT ac felly maent yn agored i newidiadau mewn maint dŵr o ganlyniad i'r galw cynyddol mewn tynnu dŵr o dwf arfaethedig yn RhCT.

**5.80** Felly, mae potensial i effeithiau sylweddol tebygol o newidiadau yn nifer y dŵr ddigwydd Cynffig ACA ac felly mae angen ystyriaeth bellach fel rhan o'r Asesiad Priodol.

#### **Aber Afon Hafren ac ACA Afon Wysg**

**5.81** Mae ACA Aber Afon Hafren wedi'i ddynodi ar gyfer aberoedd, fflatiau llaid, fflatiau tywod, dolydd halen a riffiau, sy'n cefnogi pysgod gan gynnwys lamprey'r môr, lamprey afon a eillio twaite. Mae ACA Afon Wysg wedi'i ddynodi am ei chynefinoedd pysgod a chynefinoedd cyrsiau dŵr. Mae'r cynefinoedd hyn wedi'u cysylltu'n hydrolegol â chyrsgiau dŵr yn RhCT ac felly maent yn agored i newidiadau mewn maint dŵr o ganlyniad i'r galw cynyddol mewn tynnu dŵr o dwf arfaethedig yn RhCT.

**5.82** Felly, mae potensial am effeithiau sylweddol tebygol o newidiadau yn nifer y dŵr i ddigwydd ACA Aber Afon Hafren ac Afon Wysg ac mae angen ystyried hyn ymhellach fel rhan o'r Asesiad Priodol.

#### AGA a Ramsar Aber Afon Hafren

**5.83** Mae'r AGA wedi'i ddynodi am ei gasgliad adar dŵr gan gynnwys poblogaethau o elyrch Bewick, shelduck cyffredin, cadwall, dunlin, cochshank cyffredin a mwy o wŷydd talcen gwyn. Mae safle Ramsar wedi'i ddynodi am ei gynefin gwlyptir a'r rhywogaeth y mae'n ei chynnal. Mae'r cynefinoedd hyn wedi'u cysylltu'n hydrolegol â chyrsiau dŵr yn RhCT ac felly maent yn agored i newidiadau mewn maint dŵr o ganlyniad i'r galw cynyddol mewn tynnu dŵr o dwf arfaethedig yn RhCT.

**5.84** Felly, mae potensial am effeithiau sylweddol tebygol o newidiadau yn nifer y dŵr i ddigwydd AGA Aber Afon Hafren a Ramsar ac mae angen ystyried hyn ymhellach fel rhan o'r Asesiad Priodol.

**5.85** Er mwyn deall yn llawn yr effeithiau posibl ar faint dŵr o'r CDLI Diwygiedig ar y safleoedd Ewropeaidd a restrir uchod, bydd angen adolygiad o Astudiaethau Cylchred Dŵr perthnasol (WCS) a chysylltu â CNC a chwmnïau dŵr perthnasol. Bydd angen i hyn benderfynu o ble y bydd Dŵr Cymru yn tynnu oddi wrtho ac a yw'r lleoliadau hyn wedi'u cysylltu'n hydrolegol â'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd uchod, yn ogystal ag unrhyw fesurau lliniaru gofynnol.

**Felly, mae'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd canlynol wedi cael eu sgrinio i mewn i'w hasesu yn y cam asesu priodol mewn perthynas â faint o ddŵr:**

- ACA Blaen Cynon;
- ACA Coedydd Nedd a Mellte;
- ACA Cwm Cadlan;
- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed;
- ACA Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr;
- ACA Cynffig;
- ACA Aber Afon Hafren;
- AAA ac safle Ramsar Aber Afon Hafren; ac
- ACA Afon Wysg.

### Ansawdd Dŵr

**5.86** Mae'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd a nodir yn yr adran maint dŵr hefyd yn sensitif i newidiadau yn ansawdd dŵr (gweler **paragraff 5.55**). Cafodd pob safle Ewropeaidd arall ei sgrinio gan nad yw eu nodweddion cymwys yn cael eu hystyried yn sensitif i newidiadau yn ansawdd dŵr.

**5.87** Mae Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru (CNC) wedi nodi nifer o safleoedd Ewropeaidd mewn cyflwr anffafriol oherwydd maetholion gormodol, sy'n gofyn am niwtraliaeth maetholion fel lliniaru<sup>34</sup> ac felly maent yn sensitif i newidiadau yn ansawdd dŵr sy'n deillio o ddatblygiad arfaethedig o fewn y CDLI. Nododd adolygiad o safleoedd Ewropeaidd a nodwyd gan CNC fod Afon Wysg mewn cyflwr anffafriol ac felly mae angen mesurau osgoi a lliniaru ar waith i ddangos niwtraliaeth maetholion. Ni nodwyd unrhyw safleoedd Ewropeaidd pellach a nodwyd yn yr Asesiad Sgrinio hwn gan CNC ac felly maent wedi cael eu sgrinio allan o ystyriaeth bellach mewn perthynas ag ansawdd dŵr.

**5.88** Nododd adolygiad o'r dalgylchoedd o fewn ffiniau RhCT Tawe â Chymoedd Tregatwg a Chymoedd y De Ddwyrain<sup>35</sup>, nad ystyrir eu bod wedi'u cysylltu'n hydrolegol â dalgylch ACA Afon Wysg ac felly ni ragwelir effaith sylweddol debygol o ganlyniad i gynydd yn y galw am driniaeth ddŵr o ganlyniad i ddatblygiad o fewn y Cynllun Lleol. Felly, mae'r safle Ewropeaidd hwn wedi'i sgrinio allan o asesiad pellach.

<sup>34</sup> <https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/business-sectors/planning-and-development/our-role-in-planning-and-development/principles-of-nutrient-neutrality-in-relation-to-development-or-water-discharge-permit-proposals/?lang=en> Cyrchwyd ar 03/01/2023

<sup>35</sup> <https://waterwatchwales.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/en/> Cyrchwyd ar 03/01/2023

Felly, ni ragwelir unrhyw effaith sylweddol debygol i safleoedd Ewropeaidd o ganlyniad i ansawdd dŵr o ddatblygiad arfaethedig yn y CDLI Diwygiedig naill ai ar ei ben ei hun neu ar y cyd â chynlluniau a phrosiectau eraill.

## Crynodeb o'r Aseiad Sgrinio

5.89 Mae Tabl 5.1 yn crynhoi ystyriaethau effaith allweddol pob safle Ewropeaidd yn seiliedig ar y rhagdybiaethau a nodir yn y bennod hon.

Tabl 5.5: Ystyriaethau effaith allweddol sy'n cael eu sgrinio i'r ARC (EST – Effaith Sylweddol Tebygol)

Safle Ewropeaidd	Colled Gorfforol / Niwed (ar y safle)	Aflonyddwch Anffisegol	Halgiad Diwenwyn	Llygredd Aer	Effeithiau Hamdden	Nifer y Dŵr	Ansawdd Dŵr
ACA Blaen Cynon	EST^ posibl	Dim EST	Posibl EST*	Posibl EST*	Posibl EST	Posibl EST*	Dim EST
ACA Coedydd Nedd a Melte	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Posibl EST	Posibl EST	Posibl EST	Dim EST
Cwm Cadlan	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Posibl EST	Posibl EST	Dim EST
Aberbargoed Grasslands ACA	EST^ posibl	Dim EST	EST^ posibl	Posibl EST*	Dim EST	Posibl EST	Dim EST
Blackmill Woodlands ACA	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Posibl EST	Posibl EST	Dim EST	Dim EST
Bannau Brycheiniog ACA	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Posibl EST	Posibl EST	Dim EST	Dim EST
Cardiff Beech Woods ACA	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Posibl EST	Posibl EST	Dim EST	Dim EST
Dunraven Bay ACA	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST
Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr ACA	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Posibl EST	Dim EST	Posibl EST	Dim EST
Cynffig ACA	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Posibl EST	Dim EST
Severn Estuary ACA	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Posibl EST	Dim EST	Posibl EST	Dim EST
Severn Estuary AGA and Ramsar	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Posibl EST*	Dim EST	Posibl EST	Dim EST

Safle Ewropeaidd	Colled Gorfforol / Niwed (ar y safle)	Aflonyddwch Anffisegol	Halogiad Diwenwyn	Llygredd Aer	Effeithiau Hamdden	Nifer y Dŵr	Ansawdd Dŵr
River Usk ACA	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Dim EST	Posibl EST	Dim EST
<p>*Gan gynnwys cynefin â chysylltiad swyddogaethol</p> <p>^Gan gynnwys cynefin â chysylltiad swyddogaethol yn unig</p>							



## **Pennod 6**

### **Gorffen a'r camau nesaf**

**6.1** Yn y cam Sgrinio, nodwyd effeithiau sylweddol tebygol ar safleoedd Ewropeaidd, naill ai ar eu pennau eu hunain neu ar y cyd â pholisïau a chynigion eraill, ar gyfer y Strategaeth a Ffefrir yn gyffredinol, y pedwar prif safle a'r polisïau strategol canlynol:

- SP6 Tai

1. SP7 Tir cyflogaeth a'r economi
1. SP9 Twristiaeth

**6.2** Penderfynodd canfyddiadau'r Sgrinio Adnoddau Dynol y gallai'r CDLI Diwygiedig arwain at effeithiau sylweddol tebygol mewn perthynas â:

- **Difrod corfforol a cholled** – ACA Blaen Cynon (oddi ar y safle yn unig) a ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed (oddi ar y safle yn unig).
- **Halogiad diwenwyn** – ACA Blaen Cynon (ar y safle ac oddi ar y safle) a ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed (oddi ar y safle yn unig).
- **Llygredd aer** – ACA Blaen Cynon (ar y safle ac oddi ar y safle); ACA Coedydd Nedd a Mellte; ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed (ar y safle ac oddi ar y safle); ACA Coetiroedd Melin Ddu; ACA Bannau Brycheiniog; ACA Coed Bedw Caerdydd; ACA Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr; ACA Aber Afon Hafren; ac AAA/Ramsar Aber Afon Hafren (ar y safle ac oddi ar y safle).
- **Effeithiau hamdden** - ACA Coedydd Nedd a Mellte, ACA Blaen Cynon, ACA Cwm Cadlan, ACA Bannau Brycheiniog, ACA Coetiroedd Melin Ddu and ACA Coed Bedw Caerdydd.
- **Nifer y dŵr** – ACA Blaen Cynon; ACA Coedydd Nedd a Mellte; ACA Cwm Cadlan; ACA Glaswelltiroedd Aberbargoed; ACA Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr; ACA Cynffig; ACA Aber Afon Hafren; AAA a safle Ramsar Aber Afon Hafren; ac ACA Afon Wysg.

## Y Camau Nesaf

**6.3** Bydd cam nesaf y broses HRA (Asesiad Priodol) yn penderfynu a fydd y CDLI Diwygiedig yn arwain at unrhyw effeithiau andwyol ar Uniondeb (AEoI) o'r safleoedd Ewropeaidd sy'n cael eu sgrinio i asesiad pellach. Bydd hyn yn cynnwys adolygiad o addasrwydd safleoedd dynodedig ar gyfer rhywogaethau cymwys o safleoedd Ewropeaidd.

**6.4** Ochr yn ochr ag iteriad nesaf y CDLI Diwygiedig, bydd angen y darnau allweddol canlynol o wybodaeth gan y Cyngor i'w hadolygu o fewn y cam Asesu Priodol:

- Strategaethau osgoi a lliniaru presennol ar gyfer safleoedd Ewropeaidd.
- Map o SINCs a ddynodir ar gyfer cynefin ategol sy'n addas ar gyfer glöyn byw brith cors.
- Data arolwg ymwelwyr (os yw ar gael).
- Astudiaeth cylch dŵr neu gymhwyster cyfatebol.
- Data modelu traffig mewn perthynas â safleoedd Ewropeaidd ger ffyrdd mawr.

**6.5** Mae ARC yn broses ailadroddol ac o'r herwydd disgwylir iddo gael ei ddiweddarau yng ngoleuni tystiolaeth a sylwadau newydd gan ymgynghoreion allweddol. Bydd yr adroddiad hwn yn destun ymgynghoriad gyda Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru i gadarnhau bod casgliadau'r asesiad yn cael eu hystyried yn briodol yn ystod y cam hwn o lunio cynlluniau.

## Appendix A

### Sylwadau Ymgynhori Cwmpasu ARC

**Table A.1: Consultation responses received in relation to the HRA Scoping Report for the Revised LDP 2020-2030**

Component of HRA <sup>36</sup>	Summary of Consultee Comment	Response
Natural Resources Wales		
General	We consider that the European sites that should be scoped in to the HRA of the LDP have been correctly identified, and generally the proposed approach to the HRA of the LDP reasonable.	Noted, no action required.
Chapter 4	Chapter 4 addresses the functionally linked habitat in relation to marsh fritillary butterfly. However, it does not describe or define what would be recognised as suitable habitat for the species. It is important that this is defined in order to ensure that non-designated functional habitat can be appropriately recognised. Connectivity between the designated and non-designated habitats should also be addressed and defined.	Noted. This information will be added in the HRA Screening Report for the Preferred Strategy.
Table 4.1	We suggest water quantity be scoped in for Blaen Cynon ACA, Cwm Cadlan ACA, Coedydd Nedd a Mellte ACA and Aberbargoed Grasslands ACA, as habitats within these protected sites would be sensitive to changes in water levels.	Noted, these sites will be scoped in as suggested in relation to water quantity in the HRA Screening Report for the Preferred Strategy.
Table 4.1	While Cwm Cadlan ACA and Coedydd Nedd a Mellte ACA are not officially designated for Marsh Fritillary, there are records within and nearby these SACs, therefore we suggest that Physical Loss/Damage (functionally linked habitat) be scoped in.	Noted, however Cwm Cadlan ACA and Coedydd Nedd a Mellte ACA are not designated for Marsh Fritillary. We have scoped in Physical Loss/Damage (functionally linked habitat) for Blaen Cynon ACA and Aberbargoed Grasslands ACA (which are Designated for Marsh Fritillary), this therefore covers functionally linked habitat for this species and thereby the functionally linked habitat within Cwm Cadlan ACA and Coedydd Nedd a Mellte ACA.
Table 4.1	Although the following sites currently have less recreational pressure than those scoped in, Blaen Cynon ACA, Cwm Cadlan ACA and Blackmill ACA should also be considered due to their various individual attributes such as public rights of way, easily accessed woodlands and status of National Nature Reserves.	Noted, these sites will be scoped in as suggested in relation to recreation in the HRA Screening Report for the Preferred Strategy.
Appendix C	Section 2.26 identifies a number of ongoing projects including the bypass route between Llwycoed and Penywaun. However, it appears that the A465 Heads of the Valleys Section 5 and 6 dualling project is omitted from consideration. Given the scheme assessment identified likely significant effects on Blaen Cynon ACA and Usk Bats Site ACA and includes substantial mitigation commitments in and around the LDP area, this project needs to be included for consideration in the assessment of potential in-combination effects.	Noted, this scheme will be added to the assessment of in-combination effects in the HRA Screening Report for the Preferred Strategy.
Countryside and Parks		

<sup>36</sup> Note that references in this column refer to the section of the HRA Scoping Report being commented on, not this HRA Screening Report.

Component of HRA <sup>36</sup>	Summary of Consultee Comment	Response
Paragraph 2.5	Refs to European Commission as a consultee remains. I can't believe this is required after 31st Dec 2020.	In the HRA Screening Report for the Preferred Strategy, this text will be updated to 'appropriate authority' in line with the Regulations post-Brexit.
Paragraph 2.6-2.10	<p>This section seems to represent a change of approach from previously. It seems to imply that the assessment must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ habitats and species on the site additional for those it was designated for, and</li> <li>■ areas outside the site</li> </ul> <p>as they contribute to the conservation of the designated habitats and species.</p> <p>If this is the case, all the 'meta-population' work that has been undertaken with regard to the marsh fritillary since the last LDP will become very relevant. The importance of the SSSI and SINC network (and potentially other intervening sites) that contribute to the sites with marsh fritillary as a feature (Blaencynon, and Cwm Cadlan BBNP, Aberbargoed grasslands Caerphilly and Cefn Cribbwr Bridgend) as well as SSSI etc in Merthyr, NPT, Bridgend and Caerphilly as well as RCT. In particular in the south of RCT, the Ely Valley /Rhos Tonyrefail/ Llantrisant Common/ Llantwit Fardre Marsh sites and habitats are probably the closest extant sites and populations to Aberbargoed and Cefn Cribbwr. We have evidence relating to this as do NRW and Butterfly Conservation.</p> <p>There is the parasitic wasp of the marsh fritillary, which is actually rarer than MFs, and just as worthy of protection. Also narrow bordered bee hawk moths uses very much the same habitat and populations in the Hirwaun area are using the ACA and adjacent sites.</p> <p>Also see comments below about curlew and snipe on Blaencynon ACA, they were dependant on the same wet grasslands as the MFs- if still present those species might count as additional associate species.</p> <p>Further work has also been undertaken on bog and peatland sites and species since the last HRA and habitat connectivity is an important issue here. There is an important raised bog on the Blaencynon ACA, which although not the primary ACA designation feature, is fundamental habitat in the ACA. The associated peatland flora and fauna of the bog is partly supported in adjacent peatbogs, which are therefore important to the ecological context of that site.</p>	Comment and information noted. As stated in paragraph 2.6, the proposed approach to this HRA reflects the relatively recent Holohan ruling.
Paragraph 2.15	Note that industrial emissions added to this para, would prefer 'such as agricultural or industrial activities' given recent concerns re outdoor poultry in particular.	Noted, reference to agricultural activities will be added to the 'air pollution' bullet point in the HRA Screening Report for the Preferred Strategy.
Paragraph 2.26	In light of 2.6-10 above. Aberdare link road has been added, why has the dualling of the A465 been omitted? Please rectify this. Roads in Ely valley and Llanharan	Noted, the A465 dualling scheme will be added to the assessment of in-combination effects in the HRA Screening Report for the Preferred

Component of HRA <sup>36</sup>	Summary of Consultee Comment	Response
	bypass could have impacts on the MF site network in the south of the County Borough (linking Aberbargoed and Cefn Cribbwr vis Llantrisant and Rhos Tonyrefail). Powys poultry farms could impact the northern sites.	Strategy. This part of the report relates to other development schemes that could have in-combination effects, rather than existing traffic on local roads, which form part of the baseline.
Paragraph 2.34-2.35	In light of 2.6 -2.10 above, the integrity of the European site will also depend on the supporting meta-population sites.	Noted, no changes required.
Paragraph 3.4	Isn't a small part of the Cardiff Beechwoods ACA actually in RCT (see attached consent review document from 2013). The consultants may not have seen this document, but it may be useful to them.	This has been checked and a very small fragment of the ACA does indeed cross the boundary into RCT – the HRA Screening Report for the Preferred Strategy will reflect this.
Paragraph 4.6	Cwm Cadlan (fen meadow with purple moor grass and devil's bit scabious) and Cefn Cribbwr (fen meadow with purple moor grass and devil's bit scabious, contributing to MF) are meta pop sites for MF (see appendix B), Cwm Cadlan now has MFs and will be part of the Hirwaun meta-population. Cefn Cribbwr if it functions and links to the Ely Valley population, might have some capacity to interact with the Hirwaun meta-population (see comments below).	Noted. These sites will be considered as part of the functionally linked habitat for Marsh Fritillary.
Paragraph 4.7-4.9	The south crop meta-pop isn't mentioned at all, because none of the European sites are in RCT but the intervening RCT sites will affect European sites in Caerphilly and Bridgend. Note the Cefn Cribbwr site is identified as a mf site in appendix B and should be mentioned in this section as well. Given the Ely Valley sites are potentially a key link in the chain of MF habitat (between Cefn Cribbwr to the West and Aberbargoed to the East) along the southern edge of the coalfield. Certainly, the future of both those SACs is dependent on the capacity to reconnect them into functioning habitat networks, and given there is more MF habitat in southern RCT than in either of the immediate ACA landscapes, this deserves consideration. Also it is important not to forget that MFs turned up in the Rhondda this year, and the physical distance is not too great between the Tonyrefail part of Ely Valley Populations and Hirwaun. One of the RCT objectives will be (using the Rhondda and Lower Cynon Valleys) to try and link those two metapopulation areas. Periodically they may still connect so even today.	Noted. These sites will be considered as part of the functionally linked habitat for Marsh Fritillary.
Paragraph 4.18	Note that the Blaencynon ACA is already in exceedence in terms of NOx deposition.	Noted.
Paragraph 4.27-4.28	Air pollution is not just from traffic, text should also refer to potential industrial emissions, and nitrogen deposition from agriculture. There was survey work done for some of the Hirwaun planning applications.	Noted, reference will be added to other sources of emissions.
Paragraph 4.30	Blaencynon should be on this list, see comments re: table 4.1 below.	Noted, Blaen Cynon ACA will be scoped in for recreational impacts in the HRA Screening Report for the Preferred Strategy.

Component of HRA <sup>36</sup>	Summary of Consultee Comment	Response
Paragraph 4.39	No mention is made to SUDs which are mandatory for new development in Wales (but not in England). Some wastewater will be accommodated on site and not discharged via WW sewerage with potential impacts (quality and quantity) on European sites.	Noted.
Table 4.1	<p>All of Blaencynon, Coedydd Nedd A Mellte, Cwm Cadlan and Aberbargoed should have a tick for water quantity impacts. All have sensitive hydrology's that could be compromised by offsite abstraction or drainage impacts.</p> <p>Blaen Cynon ACA should have an urban edge tick -- parts of the ACA are very close to the urban edge of Hirwaun, and potentially could be impacted by urban/recreational uses. Grass fire impacts are very much a rhos pasture threat, and an urban edge syndrome. Also, in terms of other species, Blaen Cynon ACA used to have breeding snipe and curlew, both of which could be affected by non-physical or recreational impacts. If either of those species still breed there that could again require a tick.</p> <p>Col 2 includes functionally linked habitat: all mf / rhos pasture sites should have a tick.</p> <p>Col 5 see 4.30 above.</p> <p>Col 6/7 see 4.39 above.</p>	<p>Noted, consideration will be given to whether Blaen Cynon ACA, Cwm Cadlan ACA, Coedydd Nedd a Mellte ACA and Aberbargoed Grasslands ACA should be scoped in and screened for potential effects on water quantity.</p> <p>Blaen Cynon ACA will be scoped in and screened for recreational impacts in the HRA Screening Report for the Preferred Strategy. Effects on bird species will not fall within the scope of the HRA as these are not the qualifying features of the ACA.</p>
Appendix C	We have not checked the detail of these. We have had no involvement with other LDP HRAs.	Comment noted.

## **Appendix B**

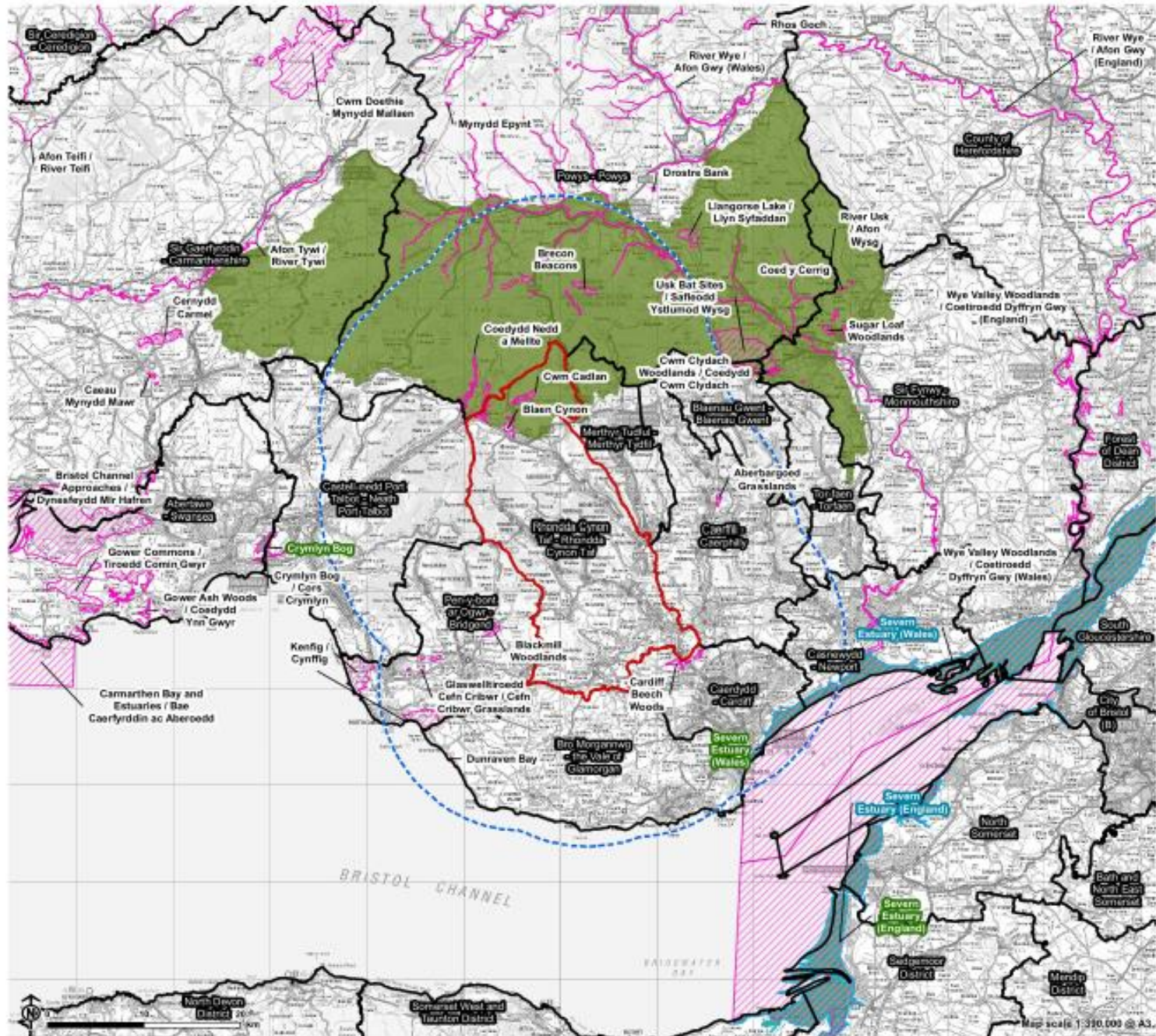
### **Map of European sites within 15km of Rhondda Cynon Taf**





European sites within 15km of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough

- RCT County Borough boundary
- RCT County Borough boundary 15km buffer
- Brecon Beacons National Park
- Local authority boundary
- SAC
- SPA
- Ramsar



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## **Appendix C**

### **Attributes of European Sites**

Table C.1: Attributes of European Sites

European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
Blaen Cynon ACA	66.62	Within the RCT boundary, in the central north of the county. Lies partly within the Bannau Brycheiniog National Park.	<p>Annex II Species primary reason for selection:</p> <p>Marsh fritillary butterfly <i>Euphydryas</i> (<i>Eurodryas</i>, <i>Hypodryas</i>) <i>aurinia</i></p>	<p>The Blaen Cynon ACA is notified as two component SSSIs:</p> <p><u>Cors Bryn-y-Gaer SSSI and Woodland Park and Pontpren SSSI</u></p> <p>Lowland bog at Cors Bryn-y-gaer is actively peat forming. The vegetation is characterised by a carpet of bog moss <i>Sphagnum cuspidatum</i>, together with species such as deergrass <i>Trichophorum cespitosum</i>, hare's tail cottongrass <i>Eriophorum vaginatum</i> and round-leaved sundew <i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>. In slightly drier areas cross-leaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i> becomes more abundant and there is a greater range of bog moss species <i>Sphagnum spp.</i>, whilst in the wettest areas common cottongrass <i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i> is frequent.</p> <p>Areas of marshy grassland dominated by rushes such as soft rush <i>Juncus effusus</i> and sharpflowered rush are also present throughout Cors Bryn-y-gaer. Associated species include frequent marsh bedstraw <i>Galium palustre</i>, devil's-bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i> and greater bird's-foot trefoil <i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>.</p> <p>The neutral grassland is characterised by a range of grasses including common bent <i>Agrostis capillaris</i>, red fescue <i>Festuca rubra</i> and crested dog's tail <i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>, together with common knapweed <i>Centaurea nigra</i> and common bird's-foot trefoil <i>Lotus corniculatus</i>. On the lower slopes of the drumlins this community often grades into the more extensive acid grassland community, containing frequent sheep's fescue <i>Festuca ovina</i> and bird's-foot trefoil.</p> <p><u>Woodland Park and Pontpren SSSI</u></p> <p>Extensive complex of damp pastures and heaths supporting the largest metapopulation of marsh fritillary <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> on the southern edge of</p>	<p><b><u>Conservation objectives:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The site will contribute towards supporting a sustainable metapopulation of the marsh fritillary in the Penderyn/Hirwaun area. This will require a minimum of 50ha of suitable habitat, of which at least 10ha must be in good condition, although not all is expected to be found within the ACA. Some will be on nearby land within a radius of about 2km.</li> <li>■ The population will be viable in the long term, acknowledging the extreme population fluctuations of the species.</li> <li>■ A minimum of 30% of the total site area will be grassland suitable for supporting marsh fritillary. (As the total area of the ACA is 66.62 ha, 30% represents approximately 20 ha.)</li> <li>■ At least 40% of the suitable habitat (approximately 8 ha) must be in optimal condition for breeding marsh fritillary.</li> <li>■ Suitable marsh fritillary habitat is defined as stands of grassland where <i>Succisa pratensis</i> is present and where scrub more than 1 metre tall covers no more than 10% of the stands</li> <li>■ Optimal marsh fritillary breeding habitat will be characterised by grassland where the vegetation height is 10-20 cm, with abundant purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>, frequent "large-leaved" devil's-bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i> suitable for marsh fritillaries to lay their eggs and only occasional scrub. In peak years, a density of 200 larval webs per hectare of optimal habitat will be found across the site. (Fowles 20042)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Pressures and threats:</u></b></p>



European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
				<p>the Bannau Brycheiniog National Park. The marsh fritillary butterfly <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> is found in a range of habitats in which its larval food plant, devil's-bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i>, occurs.</p> <p>Marshy grassland, and flush and spring are of particular importance as they provide habitat for the marsh fritillary. Also present are areas of raised bog, species-rich neutral grassland, acid grassland and semi-natural broadleaved woodland.</p>	<p><b>Invasive species:</b> Gradually remove planted trees and invasive scrub, particularly where it is encroaching into habitat used by marsh fritillary caterpillars.</p> <p><b>Grazing:</b> Both overgrazing and undergrazing would lead to unwanted changes in the vegetation structure and a decline in species diversity as coarse grasses and weed species become prevalent. The levels and timing of grazing are vital to maintain the vegetation structure and species diversity at the site. Habitat conditions should be maintained through the appropriate management regime of light grazing by cattle and/or ponies over the summer months.</p> <p><b>Drainage:</b> The lowland bog and wet grassland communities are strongly influenced by the quantity and quality of water feeding and draining the site. Any increases in the amount of drainage would cause the site to become drier and alter the vegetation communities present. The existing drainage and overall hydrological regime at the site appear to be suitable to maintain these habitats. However, limited ditch blocking may be desirable.</p> <p><b>Scrub:</b> The spread of scrub beyond existing levels may be indicative of insufficient grazing or the drying out of the site. Increased scrub cover can lead to a reduction in the area of wetland habitats. Ensuring the correct grazing levels at the site and maintaining the existing hydrological conditions should prevent the further spread of scrub. However, this management may need to be supplemented by a programme of scrub control.</p> <p>The Natura 2000 Standard Data Form for the Site also indicates the following additional pressures/threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Changes in abiotic conditions;</li> <li>■ Air pollution, air-borne pollutants;</li> <li>■ Pollution to groundwater (point sources and diffuse sources); and</li> <li>■ Other ecosystem modifications.</li> </ul>

European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
Cardiff Beech Woods ACA	114.45	Slightly within the south eastern boundary of RCT.	<p>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Asperulo-Fagetum beech forests</li> </ul> <p>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <i>Tilio-Acerion</i> forests of slopes, screes and ravines</li> </ul>	<p>The woods show mosaics and transitions to other types, including more acidic beech woodland and oak Quercus and ash Fraxinus excelsior woodland. Characteristic and notable species in the ground flora include ramsons <i>Allium ursinum</i>, sanicle <i>Sanicula europaea</i>, bird's-nest orchid <i>Neottia nidus-avis</i> and yellow bird's-nest <i>Monotropa hypopitys</i>.</p> <p>These woods consist of ash Fraxinus excelsior, wych elm <i>Ulmus glabra</i> and lime (mainly small-leaved lime <i>Tilia cordata</i> but more rarely large-leaved lime <i>T. platyphyllos</i>). Introduced sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> is often present. The habitat type is found on calcareous substrates. The main types are the 'western' forms (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> – <i>Acer campestre-Mercurialis perennis</i> woodland, and the equivalent north-western community <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> – <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i> – <i>Mercurialis perennis</i> woodland</p> <p>Underpinned by three component Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Garth Wood SSSI - supports a nationally rare cave dwelling spider <i>Porrhoma rosenhaueri</i></li> <li>■ Fforestganol a Chwm Nofydd SSSI</li> <li>■ Castell Coch Woodlands and Road Section SSSI - supports geological exposures.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Conservation objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The existing <i>Asperulo-fagetum</i> beech forest will be maintained.</li> <li>■ At least 95% of canopy forming trees will be locally native species such as beech, ash and oak, with some areas dominated by beech.</li> <li>■ The tree canopy will not be completely closed; approximately 10% of the canopy will include a dynamic shifting pattern of gaps encouraging natural regeneration of tree species of all ages.</li> <li>■ Dead wood, standing and fallen, will be maintained where possible to provide habitat for invertebrates, fungi and other woodland species.</li> <li>■ There are pockets of ground flora across the site, comprising species typical of lime-rich beech wood, including indicators of ancient woodland such as wood anemone, ramsons and sanicle.</li> <li>■ There is little evidence of browsing or squirrel damage to trees.</li> <li>■ Recreational use of the site will continue to be managed so it does not damage the wildlife interest of the site.</li> <li>■ The existing <i>Tilio-acerion</i> forest will be maintained.</li> <li>■ At least 95% of canopy forming trees will be locally native species (sycamore included).</li> </ul> <p><b>Pressures and threats:</b></p> <p><b>Recreational Use:</b> The woodlands, especially Castell Coch and Fforestganol a Chwm Nofydd, experience heavy recreational pressure and certain areas are managed for this purpose</p> <p><b>Atmospheric pollution:</b> The location of the woodland in industrialised South Wales, together with the presence of nearby quarrying and associated</p>

European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
					<p>activities, means that there is the potential for localised atmospheric pollution.</p> <p><b>Development:</b> Its location in the populated South Wales area means that there is considerable development pressure in the vicinity including associated infrastructure on land adjacent to the site. There is the potential for a range of impacts arising from increasing urbanisation.</p> <p><b>Commercial forestry:</b> Commercial forestry in the vicinity of Castell Coch may have implications for surface water supply and quality.</p> <p><b>Mineral extraction:</b> There are a number of active and disused limestone quarries in the area. Garth Wood surrounds Taff's Well Quarry but there are other, smaller quarries in and around all component SSSIs. Quarrying can lead to direct loss of the feature together with indirect impacts from issues such as access. There are also a number of impacts arising from restoration at the end of a quarry's working life.</p> <p><b>Scrub encroachment:</b> Growth of scrub and other vegetation on the rock face/ledges and floor has the potential to cover the exposures</p> <p><b>Natural Erosion and Deposition Processes:</b> Weathering and erosion of the rock face, mass movement of scree, wash of soil from the top of exposures, solution, and karstification may also cover the exposures. This can be followed by growth of vegetation.</p> <p>The Natura 2000 Standard Data Form for the Site also indicates the following additional pressures/threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Interspecific floral relations; and</li> <li>■ Invasive non-native species.</li> </ul>
Coedydd Nedd a Mellt ACA	376.32	Overlapping the RCT boundary, in the north west and partly within the Bannau	Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:	Large areas of the site have a woodland canopy dominated by oak intermediate in character between the sessile oak <i>Quercus petraea</i> and the pedunculate oak <i>Q. robur</i> , with a little downy birch <i>Betula pubescens</i> and small-leaved lime <i>Tilia cordata</i> in	<b>Conservation objectives:</b>

European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
		Brycheiniog National Park.	<p>Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles</p> <p>Habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <p>Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines</p>	<p>places. Small stands of woodland, particularly along steep tributary stream valleys are dominated by ash with a dense shrub layer of hazel, a little hawthorn and locally frequent rowan.</p> <p>The high humidity of much of the woodland has a strong influence on its botanical diversity. Trees and rocks support a diverse assemblage of plant species largely confined in their distribution to the Atlantic Seaboard of Europe. These Atlantic species include green spleenwort <i>Asplenium viride</i>, Tunbridge filmy-fern <i>H. tunbridgense</i>, hay-scented buckler-fern <i>Dryopteris aemula</i>, all of which are rare in south Wales, liverworts, such as <i>Bazzania trilobata</i>, <i>Jubula hutchinsiae</i> and the scarce <i>Anastrophyllum hellerianum</i>, <i>Colura calyptrifolia</i>, <i>Jamesoniella autumnalis</i> and <i>Sphenolobopsis pearsonii</i>, mosses, such as <i>Isoetecium holtii</i>, <i>Dichodontium denudatum</i> and the scarce <i>Bartramia hallerana</i> and <i>Seligera acutifolius</i>, lichens, such as <i>Enterographa hutchinsii</i>, <i>Micarea alabastrites</i>, the rare <i>Micarea hedlundii</i>, and the scarce <i>Micarea stipitata</i> and <i>Phyllopsora rosei</i>.</p> <p>Soils with impeded drainage or flushing support an extensive area of alder <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>-dominated woodland, in a range of topographical situations. Wet flushes within this type of woodland provide the most southerly known locality in Britain for marsh hawk's-beard <i>Crepis paludosa</i></p> <p>The dry neutral grassland (hay-meadow and pasture) has a range of grasses such as common bent, sweet vernal-grass and crested dog's-tail and herbs including common knapweed, yellow-rattle, great burnet, rough hawkbit, greater butterfly orchid and common spotted-orchid.</p> <p>Calcareous grassland has a range of typical species such as sheep's-fescue, wild thyme, salad burnet, common rock-rose, limestone bedstraw, mountain everlasting and moonwort. Where the grassland is more open and rocky, species such as carline thistle and soft-leaved sedge occur.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Sessile oak woodland will occupy at least 175 ha and Upland ash woodland will occupy at least 18 ha of the total site area.</li> <li>■ Ferns will be common ground flora species.</li> <li>■ Bryophytes will continue to be abundant and the bryophyte flora will continue to include those the edge of their geographical range will continue to be present.</li> <li>■ Heathy species such as bilberry and common heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> will be common in some areas.</li> <li>■ Introduced invasive species will be absent and any conifers seeding in from adjoining plantations will be removed whilst at the seedling/sapling stage.</li> <li>■ Damage to the ground flora and soil erosion due to public pressure will be at a minimum.</li> <li>■ All factors affecting the achievement of these conditions are under control.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pressures and threats:</b></p> <p><b>Woodland Management:</b> To restore and maintain an uneven age structure in the woodland, natural ecological processes should be allowed to operate. In time, natural clearings should occur, followed by natural regeneration of trees and shrubs. There should also be a steady accumulation of both standing and fallen deadwood, which is an essential habitat in a natural woodland system for insects, fungi, small mammals and an array of other typical woodland species.</p> <p>On the steeper slopes and rock outcrops, natural canopy gaps can be expected to occur on a regular basis as the larger trees become unstable and fall. Elsewhere felling and coppicing could be considered if suitable areas can be identified and where removal of trees would benefit the species composition, diversity of age and structure of the wood and, importantly,</p>

European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
				<p>The marshy grassland in general has a high cover of purple moor-grass or rushes. Some of this is species-rich with a prominence of plants such as meadow thistle, tawny sedge, flea sedge, devil's-bit scabious and bog pimpernel.</p> <p>Wet heath has a range of typical species including cross-leaved heath, heather, deer-grass, bilberry and lichens.</p>	<p>where extraction would not be damaging to the ground flora. Such management should incorporate measures to protect the important geological exposures where necessary, as these can be easily obscured.</p> <p>Areas of dense scrub, wet flushes, riverbanks and valley bottom (where there is constant high humidity) should be left unmanaged, except for the removal of fallen trees that may be blocking footpaths or obscuring geology. This will help protect and avoid disturbance to uncommon plants and other wildlife.</p> <p>Management of adjoining conifer plantation should carefully considered so that felling operations do not affect drainage or result in wind throw of native woodland.</p> <p><b>Overgrazing:</b> Overgrazing can limit the woodland's ability to regenerate naturally and is particularly damaging to ash woodland ground flora. Wet woodland and upland oak woodland may be able to withstand light or occasional grazing pressure but many ash woodland plants are very sensitive to grazing damage. Grazing on steep slopes can also cause vegetation loss and soil erosion. Consequently, the majority of the woodland should be protected from grazing stock, although this would be reviewed from time-to-time as in certain circumstances, occasional light grazing in autumn or winter may be desirable to control the spread of the more competitive elements of the ground flora, like bramble. Sensitive woodland plants and tree saplings are less vulnerable to grazing damage at this time of year when they have lost their leaves.</p> <p><b>Invasive plants:</b> Alien plants, such as rhododendron and Japanese knotweed, can form dense stands, displacing native plants and reducing wildlife interest. They generally provide a poor habitat for insects, birds and most mammals and the risk of stream bank erosion can be increased when knotweed dies back in the autumn. These alien species will need to be controlled and removed if they become established</p>



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					<p>within the site; however, they can be difficult to control and can easily spread from sites upstream.</p> <p><b>Access and Recreation:</b> The 'Waterfalls area' has become increasingly popular with walkers, recreational groups and tourists in recent years. Rights-of-way/footpaths need to be well designed and well maintained to prevent erosion to soils and rock outcrops and to avoid creating drainage problems. Regular monitoring of the footpath system should be carried out and problems quickly rectified. Recreational activities such as gorge walking, climbing and canoeing need to be carefully considered and managed, as such activities may not be appropriate in parts of the site. Camping and lighting of campfires, which has resulted in damage to ground flora and to trees and shrubs being cut for firewood, should not be tolerated.</p> <p><b>Engineering Works:</b> This is a steep site, which is crossed by footpaths and roads. In places there is considerable visitor pressure. Engineering works, such as maintaining/ repairing footpaths, access tracks, bridges and bank revetments need to be carefully considered so as not to cause damage to habitat, disturb soils or cause erosion problems.</p> <p><b>Fly-tipping/dumping of waste materials:</b> Rubbish and other dumped materials such as garden waste and imported soils can cause habitat damage, pollution, obscure the geological interest and introduce undesirable species such as Japanese knotweed. Any significant rubbish should be cleared from the site, and appropriate measures taken to prevent further dumping.</p> <p><b>Acidification/Pollution:</b> These include acidification of rain and soils, due to atmospheric pollution, and nutrient enrichment (especially increased nitrogen and phosphorus), through a combination of atmospheric pollution and other inputs from diffuse sources. Mosses, liverworts and lichens may be particularly vulnerable to pollution from atmospheric sources. Polluted or nutrient-enriched, water should not be</p>

European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
					<p>channelled into the site, as this could cause damage to aquatic species. Much of this atmospheric pollution comes from distant, diffuse sources, such as traffic and domestic emissions, but some can be attributed to large point sources, such as major power stations or industrial processes. The impact of the industrialisation of the south Wales valleys in the nineteenth century has had a lasting effect on upland vegetation.</p> <p>The Natura 2000 Standard Data Form for the Site also indicates the following additional pressures/threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Interspecific floral relations; and</li> <li>■ Problematic native species.</li> </ul> <p>RCT County Borough Council officers have noted that gorge walking is a growing issue at this site, especially in light of the Council's focus on tourism /outdoor sport relating to Zipworld, and that diffuse air pollution is also an issue.</p>
Cwm Cadlan ACA	83.9	Within the RCT boundary but entirely within the Bannau Brycheiniog National Park.	<p>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>)</li> <li>■ Alkaline Fens</li> </ul>	<p>The main component of this habitat type is fen-meadow, which is characterised by the prominence of purple-moor grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>, meadow <i>thistle</i> <i>Cirsium dissectum</i>, tawny sedge <i>Carex hostiana</i> and flea sedge <i>Carex pulicaris</i>. Associated species include sweet vernal-grass <i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>, quaking grass, sharp-flowered rush <i>Juncus acutiflorus</i>, bog pimpernel <i>Anagallis tenella</i>, tormentil <i>Potentilla erecta</i> and devil's-bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i>.</p> <p>Flushes are scattered throughout the site. Most of these are alkaline-rich and are distinguished by the presence of species such as butterwort <i>Pinguicula vulgaris</i>, marsh arrowgrass <i>Triglochin palustris</i>, bogbean <i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i> and, more locally, long-stalked yellow sedge <i>Carex viridula</i> ssp. <i>brachyrrhyncha</i>, marsh helleborine <i>Epipactis palustris</i>, broad-leaved cottongrass <i>Eriophorum latifolium</i> and knotted pearlwort <i>Sagina nodosa</i>.</p> <p>Neutral grassland occurs in a few well-drained areas and is characterised by grasses such as red fescue</p>	<p><b><u>Conservation objectives:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Fen-meadow will occupy at least 26 ha of a total area of marshy grassland habitat which itself will cover at least 42 ha. Alkaline Fen will occupy about 11 ha or more.</li> <li>■ The remainder of the site will mainly consist of other semi-natural habitat, including alkaline fen.</li> <li>■ Typical fen-meadow plants and alkaline fen plants will be common.</li> <li>■ Plants indicating agricultural modification or alteration to hydrology and drying of soils will be absent or present at only low cover.</li> <li>■ Although rushes are frequent, the more bulky species will not exceed 33% cover.</li> <li>■ Bare ground will generally not exceed 5% cover and vegetation litter 25%.</li> </ul>

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				<p><i>Festuca rubra</i>, common bent <i>Agrostis capillaris</i>, crested dog's-tail <i>Cynosurus cristatus</i> and sweet vernal-grass, with a variety of herbs including common bird's-foot trefoil <i>Lotus corniculatus</i>, common knapweed <i>Centaurea nigra</i>, greater burnet <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>, Lady's mantle <i>Alchemilla spp.</i> and red clover <i>Trifolium pratense</i>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Dense scrub will be largely absent from the fen-meadow, but it is probably desirable for invertebrates and birds to have a sparse scattering of shrubs or trees.</li> <li>■ At selected springheads, water should flow in all but the most severe drought conditions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pressures and threats:</b></p> <p><b>Grazing:</b> Grazing solely by sheep, or grazing at inappropriate times of the year, could eliminate sensitive species, such as globeflower and orchids. Heavy grazing could cause localised physical damage to the sward leading to invasion by “weedy” species such as creeping buttercup and creeping thistle. The marshy grassland, flushes and wet heath are particularly vulnerable to damage by excessive stock trampling.</p> <p><b>Nutrient input:</b> The application of any manure, fertilizers (including lime) and fertiliser drift or run-off from surrounding fields will upset this natural balance, having a detrimental effect on the habitats and reducing the diversity of plant species.</p> <p><b>Scrub encroachment:</b> Woodland and scrub should not encroach further into the unimproved grassland, in particular the communities of highest conservation value (alkaline fen, fen meadow and neutral grassland).</p> <p><b>Trampling:</b> Stock feeding should not be carried out within or close to the areas of important habitats, as it will lead to excessive trampling and localised nutrient enrichment, which can reduce species diversity.</p> <p><b>Drainage:</b> The marshy grassland, alkaline fen and associated acidic flush and wet heath are found in areas of impeded drainage or around natural springs. The high-water table and springs are crucial for maintaining the species diversity of these habitats No artificial drainage work should be carried out within these areas. In the past, deep ditches have been dug in parts of the site, particularly on the Natural</p>

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					<p>Resources Wales land and this has affected the natural hydrology in some areas. A long-term aim would be to attempt to restore the natural hydrology in some of these areas by allowing ditches to infill naturally or actively blocking them</p> <p>The Natura 2000 Standard Data Form for the Site also indicates the following additional pressures/threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Air pollution, air-borne pollutants</li> <li>■ Problematic native species</li> </ul>
Aberbargoed Grasslands ACA	39.64	7.6km East of the RCT boundary.	<p>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>)</li> <li>■ Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</li> <li>■ Marsh fritillary butterfly <i>Euphydryas</i> (<i>Eurodryas</i>, <i>Hypodryas</i>) <i>aurinia</i></li> </ul>	<p>Mixture of marshy grassland communities. Areas of particular interest are characterised by abundant purple moor grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> and meadow thistle <i>Cirsium dissectum</i> with devil's bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i> and carnation sedge <i>Carex panicea</i>. Other species such as saw-wort <i>Serratula tinctoria</i> and lousewort <i>Pedicularis sylvatica</i> occur frequently in heavily flushed areas. Associated stands of <i>Molinia caerulea</i> – <i>Potentilla erecta</i> mire contain abundant purple moor grass with tormentil <i>Potentilla erecta</i>, mat grass <i>Nardus stricta</i>, common sedge <i>Carex nigra</i> and spotted orchid <i>Dactylorhiza maculata</i>. Small stands of rush pasture are scattered across the site, with soft rush <i>Juncus effuses</i>, greater bird's foot trefoil <i>Lotus uliginosus</i> and marsh bedstraw <i>Galium palustre</i>.</p>	<p><b>Conservation objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The site will support a sustainable metapopulation of the marsh fritillary in the Aberbargoed area.</li> <li>■ This will require at least 50ha of suitable habitat, although not all of this will be within the ACA.</li> <li>■ At least 6.25ha will be good marsh fritillary breeding habitat, dominated by purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>, with <i>S. pratensis</i> present throughout and a vegetation height of 10-20cm over the winter period.</li> <li>■ At least 25ha of the total site area will be marshy grassland suitable for supporting marsh fritillary, with <i>Succisa pratensis</i> present and only a low cover of scrub.</li> <li>■ The population will be viable in the long term, acknowledging the extreme population fluctuations of the species.</li> <li>■ Habitats on the site will be in optimal condition to support the metapopulation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pressures and threats:</b></p> <p><b>Grazing and scrub encroachment:</b> The eu-Molinion marshy grassland needs to be maintained through traditional farming practices. Without an appropriate grazing regime, the grassland will continue to become rank and eventually turn to scrub and woodland. Light</p>

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					<p>grazing by cattle and ponies between April and November each year is essential in maintaining the marshy grassland communities.</p> <p><b>Anti-social behaviours:</b> In previous years anti-social behaviour such as off-roading and burning have occurred at Aberbargoed grasslands.</p> <p>The Natura 2000 Standard Data Form for the Site also indicates the following additional pressures/threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Air pollution, air-borne pollutants; and</li> <li>■ Other ecosystem modifications.</li> </ul>
Blackmill Woodlands ACA	71.01	3.4km west at the closest point to the RCT boundary.	<p>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles</li> </ul>	<p>The ground flora is restricted by the relative dryness of the site, but the main habitat features of sessile oak <i>Quercus petraea</i> canopy - acidic ground flora of bilberry <i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i> and wavy hair-grass <i>Deschampsia flexuosa</i>, and moderate fern and bryophyte cover - are present.</p>	<p><b><u>Conservation objectives:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ At least 90% of the site will be covered by semi-natural broadleaved woodland.</li> <li>■ The trees will be locally native broadleaved species, with a dominance of oak in the canopy.</li> <li>■ In the long term, the canopy will include trees of a wide range of age classes, with particular attention given to retaining old or veteran trees and encouraging natural regeneration of tree species, in particular oak. Dead wood, standing and fallen, will be maintained where possible to provide habitat for invertebrates, fungi and other woodland species.</li> <li>■ The tree canopy will not be completely closed; approximately 10% of the woodland will include a naturally occurring dynamic, shifting pattern of gaps.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Pressures and threats:</u></b></p> <p><b>Grazing:</b> Sheep grazing has, and continues to have, a major impact on the condition of the site with significant problems as a result of the heavy grazing in the woodland. Excessive sheep grazing leads to a severely impoverished ground flora and severely inhibits the growth or recruitment of young seedlings and saplings for regeneration. Cessation of all grazing</p>

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					<p>over a long period could be detrimental to the field layer, especially bryophytes, as they can become shaded out. The ideal is either to mimic the very low level within a natural woodland ecosystem, or to periodically vary grazing pressure.</p> <p><b>Non-native species:</b> Invasive non-native shrubs in the understorey or shrub layer</p> <p><b>Air pollution:</b> Possible in-combination effects from surrounding areas.</p> <p>The Natura 2000 Standard Data Form for the Site also indicates the following additional pressures/threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Forestry activities not referred to above.</li> </ul> <p>RCTCBC Officers have also noted the potential effects on bryophytes from air pollution.</p>
Bannau Brycheiniog (Formerly Brecon Beacons) ACA	268.63	4.1km north (at the closest point) of the RCT boundary, within the National Park	<p>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</li> <li>■ Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</li> </ul> <p>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ European dry heaths</li> <li>■ Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the</li> </ul>	<p>The relatively high base-status of the actively eroding rocky slopes has resulted in a chasmophytic flora which is comparatively rich for this southerly site. Species include purple saxifrage <i>Saxifraga oppositifolia</i> at its most southerly British location, green spleenwort <i>Asplenium viride</i>, brittle bladder-fern <i>Cystopteris fragilis</i> and several rare <i>Hieracium spp.</i> Nationally scarce bryophyte species include <i>Plagiopus oederianus</i> and <i>Scapania aequiloba</i>.</p> <p>The more siliceous sites are often towards the top of the cliffs, where the calcareous cements have been leached out, with a transition to more calcareous chasmophytic vegetation lower down the face. Species found in this habitat include fir clubmoss <i>Huperzia selago</i>, serrated wintergreen <i>Orthilia secunda</i> and the nationally scarce bryophytes <i>Brachydontium trichodes</i> and <i>Rhabdoweisia crenulata</i>.</p> <p>Hydrophilous tall herb communities occur on some of the ledges. This vegetation is scattered across the entire site where conditions are suitable, but is most visible on the higher cliffs of the main north and east facing slopes</p>	<p><b>Conservation objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The base-rich sandstone cliffs, including crevices, scree and associated patches of thin soil remains free from disturbance and support typical plants, including mosses and liverworts.</li> <li>■ A variety of rare and scarce plants thrive in these areas, including purple saxifrage, green spleenwort, Oeder's apple-moss, lesser rough earwort and several rare hawkweeds.</li> <li>■ Populations of these species are sufficiently large and widespread to be sustained into the future (currently some populations may be critically low).</li> <li>■ The acidic sandstone rocks, including crevices and scree, remain free from disturbance to and support typical plants, including mosses, ferns and lichens.</li> <li>■ A variety of rare and scarce plants thrive in these areas, including fir clubmoss, dwarf willow, and greater streak-moss.</li> </ul>

European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
			montane to alpine levels	Heath is largely dominated by single species stands of heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> and bilberry <i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i> , although some stands have crowberry <i>Empetrum nigrum</i> . Heather and bilberry also grow on the cliff ledges and are sometimes joined by cowberry <i>Vaccinium vitis-idaea</i> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The extent, quality and diversity of heath vegetation are maintained and, where possible, degraded heath is restored to good condition.</li> <li>■ The main heathland areas within the ACA and SSSI have a varied age structure with a mosaic of young heath, mature heath and degenerate heath.</li> <li>■ The cliff ledges with less acidic soil remain largely free from grazing, such that the typical flowering plants can flourish and flower freely.</li> <li>■ Several uncommon plants thrive in these areas, including serrated wintergreen and rare hawkweeds.</li> <li>■ The populations of these plants are sufficiently large and widespread to be sustained into the future.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pressures and threats:</b></p> <p><b>Grazing:</b> Heavy grazing limits the extent and diversity of calcareous chasmophytic vegetation. The tall herb communities are most susceptible to grazing damage and they are largely confined to ledges that cannot easily be reached by sheep.</p> <p><b>Erosion:</b> Calcareous chasmophytic vegetation may be damaged by erosion caused by trampling by people and livestock, both directly and by smothering with material washed down from above. Natural rockfalls occur and allow some of the less competitive species to thrive</p> <p><b>Rock climbing:</b> Although most of the rocks at this site are too soft or unstable for climbing, intensive use can dislodge plants and disturb breeding birds. These impacts may be avoided if climbing is subject to specific agreements, which include a code of conduct.</p> <p><b>Air quality:</b> High levels of any of these are believed to be damaging, especially on dwarf shrubs mosses and lichens, and there may be combined effects</p>



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					The Natura 2000 Standard Data Form for the Site also indicates the following additional pressures/threats: Fire and fire suppression.
Dunraven Bay ACA	6.45	10.7km southwest from the closest point to the RCT boundary.	Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shore dock <i>Rumex rupestris</i></li> </ul>	Only remnant of the species' former Bristol Channel range. The species has disappeared through loss of damp dune-slacks and shingle banks - coastline is generally eroding and the 20 or so plants of shore dock growing here on damp coastal limestone. This has now declined to six individuals due to cliff falls removing plants  Part of a much larger SSSI, Southerdown Coast SSSI.	<b>Conservation objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are at least 10 mature plants at the site</li> <li>The plant present are flowering and setting seed</li> <li>The population is stable and viable in the long term.</li> </ul> <b>Pressures and threats:</b> <b>Erosion:</b> Further loss of coastal limestone through further eroding of dunes and shingle banks. <b>Scrub encroachment:</b> There is the potential for scrub to spread onto areas where shore dock grows, shading it out.
Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr ACA	57.92	9.8km west at the closest point to the RCT boundary.	Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>)</li> </ul>	Extensive stands of Molinia – <i>Cirsium dissectum</i> fen-meadow, including the heathy sub-type with crossleaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i> as well as other forms with a stronger representation of native grasses, rushes and small sedges. Transitions to stands of more acidic <i>Molinia</i> and <i>Juncus pasture</i> , dry neutral grassland and wet scrub vegetation are well represented. Uncommon and declining species associated with the Molinia meadows at this site include the nationally rare viper's-grass <i>Scorzonera humilis</i> and the nationally scarce soft-leaved sedge <i>Carex montana</i> .  Comprises four component SSSIs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Caeau Cefn Cribwr;</li> <li>Pen y Castell, Cefn Cribwr;</li> <li>Bryn-bach, Cefn Cribwr; and</li> <li>Waun-fawr, Cefn Cribwr.</li> </ul>	<b>Conservation objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>eu-Molinion marshy grassland will occupy between 50% and 55% of the total site area.</li> <li>The remainder of the site will be other semi-natural habitat or areas of permanent pasture.</li> <li>The following plants will be common in the eu-Molinion marshy grassland: purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>; meadow thistle <i>Cirsium dissectum</i>; <i>Carex hostiana</i>; <i>Carex pulicaris</i>; devil's bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i>; carnation sedge <i>Carex panicea</i>; saw wort <i>Serratula tinctoria</i> and; tormentil <i>Potentilla erecta</i>.</li> <li>Cross-leaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i> and common heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> will also be common in some areas.</li> <li>Rushes and species indicative of agricultural modification, such as perennial rye grass <i>Lolium perenne</i> and white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> will be</li> </ul>



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					<p>largely absent from the eu-Molinion marshy grassland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Scrub species such as willow <i>Salix</i> (excluding <i>Salix repens</i>) and birch <i>Betula</i> will also be largely absent from the eu-Molinion marshy grassland.</li> <li>■ The site will contribute towards supporting a sustainable metapopulation of the marsh fritillary in the Cefn Cribwr area. This will require a minimum of 50ha of suitable habitat, of which at least 10ha must be in good condition, although not all is expected to be found within the ACA.</li> <li>■ The population will be viable in the long term, acknowledging the extreme population fluctuations of the species.</li> <li>■ Habitats on the site will be in optimal condition to support the metapopulation.</li> <li>■ At least 40ha within the ACA &amp; associated SSSI will be marshy grassland suitable for supporting marsh fritillary, with <i>Succisa pratensis</i> present and only a low cover of scrub.</li> <li>■ At least 8ha will be marsh fritillary breeding habitat in good condition, dominated by purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>, with <i>S. pratensis</i> present throughout and a vegetation height of 10-20cm over the winter period.</li> <li>■ Suitable marsh fritillary habitat is defined as stands of grassland where <i>Succisa pratensis</i> is present and where scrub more than 1 metre tall covers no more than 10% of the stands</li> <li>■ Optimal marsh fritillary breeding habitat will be characterised by grassland where the vegetation height is 10-20 cm, with abundant purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>, frequent "large-leaved" devil's-bit scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i> suitable for marsh fritillaries to lay their eggs and only occasional scrub. In peak years, a density of 200</li> </ul>

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					<p>larval webs per hectare of optimal habitat will be found across the site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The marshy grassland will be well sheltered by hedgerows and mature trees.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pressures and threats:</b></p> <p><b>Grazing and scrub encroachment:</b> The eu-Molinion marshy grassland has been maintained through traditional farming practices. Without an appropriate grazing regime, the grassland would become rank and eventually turn to scrub and woodland. Light grazing by cattle and ponies between April and November each year is essential in maintaining the marshy grassland communities.</p> <p><b>Hydrological regime:</b> The marshy grassland communities are strongly influenced by the quantity and base status of the groundwater. Reductions in the quality and quantity of the water in the springs and watercourses feeding the site may lead to a loss of marshy grassland or changes in species composition. Conversely, reduced/impaired drainage may lead to ground-water stagnation and a different change in species composition, e.g. increased abundance of rushes.</p> <p><b>Adjacent land use:</b> Two of the component SSSIs lie close to opencast coal workings and other active mineral workings. These may have indirect effects on the hydrological regime</p> <p><b>Shelter belts:</b> Hedgerows, woodland and mature trees in and around the site provide the sheltered conditions which the marsh fritillary require. These should be retained and managed.</p> <p>The Natura 2000 Standard Data Form for the Site also indicates the following additional pressures/threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Other ecosystem modifications;</li> <li>■ Invasive non-native species;</li> <li>■ Forestry activities not referred to above; and</li> </ul>

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Air pollution, air-borne pollutants.</li> </ul>
Cynffig ACA	1189.14	9.5km southwest from the closest point to the RCT boundary.	<p>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes") * Priority feature</li> <li>■ Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i> (<i>Salicion arenariae</i>)</li> <li>■ Humid dune slacks</li> <li>■ Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp.</li> </ul> <p>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritima</i>)</li> </ul> <p>Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Petalwort <i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i></li> </ul>	<p>Fixed dune vegetation with red fescue <i>Festuca rubra</i> and lady's bedstraw <i>Galium verum</i> and semi-fixed dune grassland with marram <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> and red fescue. There is also a relatively large area of more acidic vegetation dominated by sand sedge <i>Carex arenaria</i>, sheep's-fescue <i>Festuca ovina</i> and common bent <i>Agrostis capillaris</i>.</p> <p>The dune slacks are species-rich and there are extensive areas of dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i>, which represent a mature phase in dune slack development.</p> <p>These calcareous dune slacks are also amongst the most species-rich in the UK, supporting communities dominated by a variety of mosses and a number of rare plants, notably 1903 Fen orchid <i>Liparis loeselii</i>, for which the site is also selected.</p> <p>Coastal, alkaline lake with a moderate nutrient status. High alkalinity, conductivity, sodium and chloride values reflect this marine influence. Elevated calcium values are probably derived from marine shell remains in the sandy substrate. Large stands of common reed <i>Phragmites australis</i> are found on the pool's seaward side. Grey club-rush <i>Scirpus lacustris</i> ssp. <i>tabernaemontani</i>, sea club-rush <i>Scirpus maritimus</i>, branched bur-reed <i>Sparganium erectum</i> and yellow iris <i>Iris pseudacorus</i> are also present. A sheltered bay supports a plant association dominated by shining pondweed <i>Potamogeton lucens</i> and curled pondweed <i>P. crispus</i>. Hairlike pondweed <i>P. trichoides</i> is locally dominant in the north end and the south end has abundant rigid hornwort <i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>, Canadian waterweed <i>Elodea canadensis</i>, fan-leaved water-crowfoot <i>Ranunculus circinatus</i>, spiked water-milfoil <i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i> and the charophytes <i>Chara aspera</i> var. <i>aspera</i> and <i>Nitella flexilis</i> var. <i>flexilis</i>. Shoreweed <i>Littorella uniflora</i> can be found growing in association with <i>C. aspera</i> and the aquatic moss <i>Fontinalis antipyretica</i> along the sandy shore</p>	<p><b>Conservation objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> and humid dune slacks will occur as part of the dune system, their location will be determined by natural processes and appropriate grazing management</li> <li>■ A range of successional stages will be found in both features</li> <li>■ Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) will occur where older, shifting dunes become more stabilised and in early successional stages become colonised by lichens and other species indicative of the transition from less mobile habitat.</li> <li>■ The habitat will encompass a range of successional stages throughout the area, determined by patterns of natural factors and grazing.</li> <li>■ Grey dunes will comprise a significant part of the dune system but will increase and decrease in extent and location as natural processes determine the landscape of the dune systems.</li> <li>■ Submerged <i>Chara</i> beds (mainly <i>Chara aspera</i> and <i>C. virgata</i>) growing in relatively shallow water form the predominant submerged macrophyte vegetation throughout most of the lake.</li> <li>■ <i>Chara</i> occur at more than 50% frequency along regular surveillance transects within the Western and Central arms.</li> <li>■ Charophyte species and uncommon pondweeds such as <i>Potamogeton gramineus</i> and <i>P. x nitens</i> are present in other embayments and pools, including <i>Tolypella glomerata</i> in dune pools.</li> <li>■ The lake is spring-fed so nutrient levels remain low. One of the main nutrients (phosphorus)</li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Fen orchid <i>Liparis loeselii</i></li> </ul>	<p>section. <i>C. aspera</i> also dominates the substrate off the grazed landward shoreline.</p> <p>For petalwort <i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i> in south Wales and supports a large population of the species, numbering thousands of thalli. The calcareous dune system has many dune slacks that include the early successional, open slack vegetation this species requires.</p> <p>Largest populations of fen orchid <i>Liparis loeselii</i> in the UK, comprising about 50% of the UK resource- . var. <i>ovata</i>, which is currently known to occur only in Wales and on the coast of Brittany, as well as in the past at Braunton Burrows, Devon, England.</p>	<p>reaches no more than 25 micrograms per litre in regular sampling areas. Nitrogen levels in the water are low (less than 1 milligram per litre) and declining or stable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The lake water is clear, but well vegetated with dense beds of submerged and marginal plants. A Secchi disc is visible on the lake bed in the deepest part of the lake (2.6m).</li> <li>■ Water depth is relatively stable, fluctuating naturally with groundwater.</li> <li>■ Reed, swamp and fringing bur-reed are restricted to shallow zones – covering not more than 10 % of the site.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pressures and threats:</b></p> <p><b>Grazing:</b> Important for the maintenance of the slack vegetation. Both low numbers of rabbits and livestock graze the slacks at Cynffig SSSI and rabbits only at Merthyr Mawr SSSI.</p> <p>Undergrazing can lead to the dune slack vegetation becoming dominated by rank grasses or bushy <i>Salix repens</i> leading to a loss of species diversity and to scrub invasion leading to drying out of the slacks and total loss of the slack habitat as it is shaded out by the scrub.</p> <p>Overgrazing can lead to loss of species diversity as herbs are grazed out and are replaced by grasses.</p> <p>Trampling of the vegetation can lead to physical damage to the vegetation and soil structure and invasion by weed species.</p> <p><b>Water Level and Water Quality:</b> The slack vegetation is influenced and maintained by both a high-water table and maintenance of suitable water quality. The major water quality concerns are related to elevated macro-nutrient levels. Elevated levels of nitrogen have been found and there is also some indication that dune slacks are becoming increasingly eutrophic. The nature of the underlying limestone aquifer means that</p>

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					<p>off-site activities a considerable distance away can potentially have an impact on the ACA. This effect may occur both spatially and temporally.</p> <p><b>Natural coastal processes:</b> Dune mobility is essential for the development of embryonic and successional young slacks. Embryonic slacks form at the base of eroding dunes but slacks can also be destroyed by the advance of a mobile dune or modified as layers of sand are deposited on the slack</p> <p><b>Recreational and visitor pressure:</b> Vehicles or pressure from visitors including camping can cause damage or loss of to slack vegetation, compaction and erosion. Illegal off road motorcycling and use of 4X4s. Uncontrolled horse riding may cause damage to vegetation and protected species</p> <p><b>Scrub encroachment:</b> The removal of scrub helps prevent the loss of slack habitats to scrub and woodland.</p> <p><b>Air quality:</b> Potentially sensitive to air quality impacts, either directly from high levels of ethylene/ethane or indirectly through changes to water chemistry through deposition of atmospheric nitrogen. Atmospheric nitrogen oxide (NOx) levels may be exceeded due to proximity of several nearby sources including industrial (steel works/chemical works/power station), agricultural (chicken farms – ammonia), old landfill sites (methane), transport and wind blown particulates (adjacent tips)</p> <p><b>Water quality and agricultural run-off:</b> Run-off of nitrates and sediment from surrounding areas</p> <p><b>Fishery management:</b> Large populations of coarse fish (such as introduced carp for example) can distort the balance between the plant community, nutrient levels and the coarse fish population by eating small microscopic animals (zooplankton) that feed on tiny algae (phytoplankton).</p> <p><b>Introduction of invasive or alien species:</b> Non-native invasive species can fundamentally and</p>

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					<p>irreversibly disrupt ecosystem structure and function. Nonnative invasive species often out compete native counterparts, especially under disturbed conditions.</p> <p><b>Erosion:</b> Bank erosion / deposition may result due to changes in the river channel, and peak river flow caused by upstream canalisation.</p> <p>The Natura 2000 Standard Data Form for the Site also indicates the following additional pressures/threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Changes in abiotic conditions;</li> <li>■ Other ecosystem modifications; and</li> </ul> <p>Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), including damage caused by game (excessive density), and taking/removal of terrestrial animals (including collection of insects, reptiles, amphibians, birds of prey, etc., trapping, poisoning, poaching, predator control, accidental capture (e.g. due to fishing gear), etc.).</p>
Severn Estuary ACA / AGA / Ramsar	73,714.11 ACA 24,662.98 AGA and Ramsar	12km south east from the closest point to the RCT boundary.	<p>Qualifying Features of the ACA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Estuaries</li> <li>– Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Intertidal mudflats and sandflats</li> <li>– Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><u>Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time:</u></p> <p>Sandbanks are composed of well-sorted sandy sediments, with muddier and more gravelly sediments in the troughs between banks, and the upper crests of some of the larger banks dry out at low tide. The banks are tidally-influenced estuary mouth sandbanks.</p> <p>Fauna of the bank crests is characteristic of species-poor, mobile sand environments, and is dominated by polychaete worms and amphipods. Within the troughs and on the bank slopes a higher diversity of polychaetes, crustacea, molluscs and echinoderms are found. Mobile epifauna includes crabs and brown shrimp, along with squid and commercially important fish species such as sole and herring.</p> <p><u>Estuaries:</u></p> <p>There is a gradient of salinity from freshwater in the river to increasingly marine conditions towards the open sea. The input of sediment from the river, the</p>	<p><b>Conservation Objectives:</b></p> <p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species</li> <li>■ The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats</li> <li>■ The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species</li> <li>■ The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely</li> <li>■ The populations of qualifying species, and,</li> </ul>

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			<p>Puccinellietalia maritima)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time; Subtidal sandbanks</li> <li>– Reefs</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Petromyzon marinus; Sea lamprey</li> <li>– Lampetra fluviatilis; River lamprey</li> <li>– Alosa fallax; Twaite shad</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ Qualifying Features of the AGA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Bewick's swan Cygnus columbianus bewickii (Non-breeding)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>shelter of the estuary from wave action, and the often low current flows typically lead to the presence of extensive intertidal sediment flats and sediment-filled subtidal channels. There is usually only a limited extent of rocky habitat.</p> <p>The intertidal and subtidal sediments of estuaries support biological communities that vary according to the type of sediment and salinity gradients within the estuary, together with geographic location and the strength of tidal streams. The parts of estuaries furthest away from the open sea are usually characterised by soft sediments and the salinity is more strongly influenced by riverine freshwater input. Here the sediment-living animal communities are typically dominated by oligochaete worms, with few other invertebrates. Where rock occurs, there may be communities characteristic of brackish flowing water, consisting of green unicellular algae, sparse fucoid seaweeds, and species of barnacle and hydroid. The silt content of the sediment decreases towards the mouth of the estuary, and the water gradually becomes more saline. Here the animal communities of the sediments are dominated by species such as ragworms, bivalves and sandhopper-like crustaceans. In the outer estuary, closer to the open sea, the substrate is often composed of fine sandy sediment, and supports more marine communities of bivalves, polychaete worms and amphipod crustaceans. Where rock occurs, a range of species more characteristic of the open coast is found. The upper reaches of estuaries often support saltmarsh at the top of the shore, whilst nearer the estuary mouth this may be replaced by sand dune systems.</p> <p><u>Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Intertidal mudflats and sandflats:</u></p> <p>Intertidal mudflats and sandflats are submerged at high tide and exposed at low tide. The physical structure of the intertidal flats ranges from mobile, coarse-sand beaches on wave-exposed coasts to stable, fine-sediment mudflats in estuaries and other marine inlets. This habitat type can be divided into</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The distribution of qualifying species within the site.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pressures and threats:</b></p> <p><b>Public Access/Disturbance:</b> Pressure / threat to qualifying bird species, habitats and waterbird assemblages.</p> <p><b>Physical modification:</b> Threat to sea lamprey, river lamprey and twaite shad.</p> <p><b>Impacts of development:</b> Pressure / threat to qualifying bird species, habitats, sea lamprey, river lamprey, twaite shad and waterbird assemblages.</p> <p><b>Coastal squeeze:</b> Pressure / threat to qualifying bird species, habitats, and waterbird assemblages.</p> <p><b>Change in land Management:</b> Pressure / threat to qualifying bird species, habitats, and waterbird assemblages.</p> <p><b>Changes in species distributions:</b> Threat to qualifying bird species, habitats, and waterbird assemblages.</p> <p><b>Water Pollution:</b> Pressure / threat to qualifying bird species, habitats, sea lamprey, river lamprey, twaite shad and waterbird assemblages</p> <p><b>Air Pollution: impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition:</b> Pressure to qualifying bird species, habitats, sea lamprey, river lamprey, twaite shad and waterbird assemblages.</p> <p><b>Marine consents and permits: minerals and waste:</b> Pressure / threat to habitats, sea lamprey, river lamprey and twaite shad</p> <p><b>Fisheries: Recreational marine and estuarine:</b> Pressure to qualifying bird species, habitats, sea lamprey, river lamprey, twaite shad and waterbird assemblages.</p> <p><b>Fisheries: Commercial marine and estuarine:</b> Threat to qualifying bird species, habitats, Sea</p>



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Common shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> (Non-breeding)</li> <li>– Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i> (Non-breeding)</li> <li>– Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i> (Non-breeding)</li> <li>– Common redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i> (Non-breeding)</li> <li>– Greater white-fronted goose <i>Anser albifrons albifrons</i> (Non-breeding)</li> <li>– Waterbird assemblage</li> </ul> <p>Ramsar selection criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A wetland should be considered internationally important if it contains a representative, rare, or unique example of a natural or near-natural wetland type found within the appropriate biogeographic region (Sandbanks which are slightly</li> </ul>	<p>three broad categories (clean sands, muddy sands and muds), although in practice there is a continuous gradation between them.</p> <p><u>Reefs:</u></p> <p>Reefs on soft chalk along the shore. Thanet has sublittoral chalk platforms that extend into the littoral and form chalk cliffs. They are an unusual feature because of the scarcity of hard substrates in the area.</p> <p>The subtidal chalk platforms extend offshore in a series of steps dissected by gullies.</p> <p>Species present include an unusually rich littoral algal flora, essentially of chalk-boring algae. Thanet remains the sole known location for some algal species.</p> <p><u>Atlantic salt meadows</u></p> <p>These develop when halophytic vegetation colonises soft intertidal sediments of mud and sand in areas protected from strong wave action. This vegetation forms the middle and upper reaches of saltmarshes, where tidal inundation still occurs but with decreasing frequency and duration. A wide range of community types is represented and the saltmarshes can cover large areas, especially where there has been little or no enclosure on the landward side. The vegetation varies with climate and the frequency and duration of tidal inundation. Grazing by domestic livestock is particularly significant in determining the structure and species composition of the habitat type and in determining its relative value for plants, for invertebrates and for wintering or breeding waterfowl.</p> <p><u>Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> and River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i></u></p> <p>Distribution of supporting habitat: Restore the distribution and continuity of the feature and its supporting habitat, including where applicable its component vegetation types and associated transitional vegetation types, across the site</p>	<p>Lamprey, River Lamprey, Twaite shad and waterbird assemblages.</p> <p><b>Invasive species:</b> Threat to habitats.</p> <p><b>Marine litter:</b> Pressure / threat to qualifying bird species, habitats, Sea Lamprey, River Lamprey, Twaite shad and waterbird assemblages.</p> <p><b>Marine pollution incidents:</b> Threat to qualifying bird species, habitats, Sea Lamprey, River Lamprey, Twaite shad and waterbird assemblages.</p>



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			<p>covered by sea water all the time; Estuaries; Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; and Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A wetland should be considered internationally important if it supports populations of plant and/or animal species important for maintaining the biological diversity of a particular biogeographic region (Due to unusual estuarine communities, reduced diversity and high productivity).</li> <li>■ A wetland should be considered internationally important if it supports plant and/or animal species at a critical stage in their life cycles, or provides refuge during adverse conditions (migration of</li> </ul>	<p>Biological connectivity: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Biotope mosaic: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Flow regime: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Integrity of off-site habitats: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Riparian zone: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Screening of intakes and discharges: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Sediment regime: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Soils, substrate and nutrient cycling: Restore the properties of the underlying soil types, including structure, bulk density, total carbon, pH, soil nutrient status and fungal: bacterial ratio, within typical values for the supporting habitat</p> <p>Water quality – acidification: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Water quality – nutrients: Restore the natural nutrient regime of the rivers, with any anthropogenic enrichment above natural/background concentrations limited to levels at which adverse effects on the feature are unlikely.</p> <p>Woody debris: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Adaptation and resilience: Restore] the feature's ability, and that of its supporting habitat, to adapt or evolve to wider environmental change, either within or external to the site</p> <p>Conservation measures: Restore the management measures which are necessary to restore the structure, functions and supporting processes</p>	

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			<p>Salmon <i>Salmo salar</i>, sea trout  <i>Salmo trutta</i>, sea lamprey  <i>Petromyzon marinus</i>, river lamprey  <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>, allis shad  <i>Alosa alosa</i>, twaite shad  <i>Alosa fallax</i>, and eel  <i>Anguilla anguilla</i>. It is also of particular importance for migratory birds during spring and autumn).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A wetland should be considered internationally important if it regularly supports 20,000 or more waterbirds (species with peak counts in winter: 70,919 waterfowl)</li> <li>■ A wetland should be considered internationally important if it regularly supports 1% of the individuals in a population of one species or subspecies of waterbird (lesser black-backed gull <i>Larus fuscus graell</i>, ringed plover)</li> </ul>	<p>associated with the feature and/or its supporting habitats.</p> <p>Water quantity/quality: Where the feature or its supporting habitat is dependent on surface water and/or groundwater restore water quality and quantity to a standard which provides the necessary conditions to support the feature</p> <p><u>Twaite shad <i>Alosa fallax</i></u></p> <p>Distribution of supporting habitat: Restore the distribution and continuity of the feature and its supporting habitat, including where applicable its component vegetation types and associated transitional vegetation types, across the site</p> <p>Biological connectivity: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Biotope mosaic: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Flow regime: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Riparian zone: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Sediment regime: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Soils, substrate and nutrient cycling: Restore the properties of the underlying soil types, including structure, bulk density, total carbon, pH, soil nutrient status and fungal: bacterial ratio, within typical values for the supporting habitat</p> <p>Vegetation composition: invasive non-native species: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Water quality – nutrients: Restore the natural nutrient regime of the rivers, with any anthropogenic enrichment above natural/background concentrations limited to levels at which adverse effects on the feature are unlikely.</p>	

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			<p><i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>, eurasian teal <i>Anas crecca</i>, northern pintail <i>Anas acuta</i>).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A wetland should be considered internationally important if it is an important source of food for fishes, spawning ground, nursery and/or migration path on which fish stocks, either within the wetland or elsewhere, depend (The fish of the whole estuarine and river system is one of the most diverse in Britain, with over 110 species recorded).</li> </ul>	<p>Woody debris: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Adaptation and resilience: Restore the feature's ability, and that of its supporting habitat, to adapt or evolve to wider environmental change, either within or external to the site</p> <p>Conservation measures: Restore the management measures (either within and/or outside the site boundary as appropriate) which are necessary to restore the structure, functions and supporting processes associated with the feature and/or its supporting habitats.</p> <p>Integrity of off-site habitats: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Vegetation structure: cover of submerged macrophytes: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Water quantity/ quality: Where the feature or its supporting habitat is dependent on surface water and/or groundwater restore water quality and quantity to a standard which provides the necessary conditions to support the feature</p> <p><u>Bewick's swan (Non-breeding)</u></p> <p>Habitat preference: shallow tidal waters, coastal lagoons, inland freshwater lakes and marshes and flooded pastures</p> <p>Diet: seeds, roots, and stems of aquatic plants, occasional small invertebrate, including mollusks and arthropods, and polychaete worms, and also some grass growing on dry land.</p> <p><u>Common shelduck (Non-breeding)</u></p> <p>Habitat preference: freshwater, coastal and wetlands.</p> <p>Diet: Invertebrates, small shellfish and aquatic snails</p> <p><u>Gadwall (Non-breeding)</u></p>	

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				<p>Habitat preference – Marshes, lakes, on migration also rivers, estuaries</p> <p>Diet – Leaves, shoots, mostly while swimming with head under water</p> <p><u>Dunlin (Non-breeding)</u></p> <p>Habitat preference: coastal all year round, preferring estuaries; in winter it feeds in large flocks and roosts in nearby fields and saltmarshes</p> <p>Diet: Insects, snails and worms</p> <p><u>Common redshank (Non-breeding)</u></p> <p>Habitat preference: estuaries and coastal lagoons</p> <p>Diet: insects, earthworms, molluscs and crustaceans</p> <p><u>Greater white-fronted goose (Non-breeding)</u></p> <p>Habitat preference: coastal wetlands, freshwater and farmland.</p> <p>Diet: Grass, clover, grain, winter wheat and potatoes.</p>	
River Usk ACA	967.97	17km to the east of the RCT boundary.	<p>Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i></li> <li>■ Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i></li> <li>■ River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i></li> <li>■ Twait shad <i>Alosa fallax</i></li> <li>■ Atlantic salmon <i>Salmo salar</i></li> </ul>	<p><u>Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation</u></p> <p>Riparian zone: Restore a patchy mosaic of natural woody and herbaceous (tall and short swards) riparian vegetation (except in upland areas above the natural tree line). The riparian zone should be sufficiently wide to act as a healthy and functional habitat zone within the river corridor.</p> <p>Woody debris: Restore the presence of coarse woody debris within the structure of the channel (except in upland areas above the natural tree line). In smaller watercourses, temporary debris dams should be a feature of channel dynamics.</p> <p>Water course flow: Restore the natural flow regime of the river, with daily flows as close to what would be</p>	<p><b><u>Conservation objectives:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The capacity of the habitats in the ACA to support each feature at near-natural population levels, as determined by predominantly unmodified ecological and hydromorphological processes and characteristics, should be maintained as far as possible, or restored where necessary.</li> <li>■ The ecological status of the water environment should be sufficient to maintain a stable or increasing population of each feature. This will include elements of water quantity and quality, physical habitat and community composition and structure. It is anticipated that these limits will concur with the relevant standards used by the Review of Consents process given in Annexes 1-3.</li> </ul>

European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Bullhead Cottus gobio</li> <li>■ Otter Lutra lutra</li> </ul> <p>Annex II species present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Allis shad <i>Alosa alosa</i></li> </ul> <p>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation</li> </ul>	<p>expected in the absence of abstractions and discharges (the naturalised flow).</p> <p>Sediment regime: Restore the natural supply of coarse and fine sediment to the river</p> <p>Thermal regime: Restore a natural thermal regime to the river subject to a changing climate, ensuring that water temperatures should not be significantly artificially elevated</p> <p>Biological connectivity: The movement of characteristic biota should not be artificially constrained.</p> <p>Key structural, influential and/or distinctive species: Restore the abundance of the species listed to enable each of them to be a viable component of the Annex I habitat feature.</p> <p>Fisheries: Restore fish densities at or to a level at or below the natural environmental carrying capacity of the river, and below historical levels (this means no stocking to previously unstocked rivers or river sections). Trout stocking should not elevate densities of adult trout (stocked plus natural) to more than 1-3 fish 100m<sup>-2</sup>, this being the estimated range of natural trout densities in ACA rivers.</p> <p>Vegetation structure: riparian zone: Restore grazing activity in the riparian zone and in the river channel at or to suitably low levels.</p> <p>Vegetation structure: cover of submerged macrophytes: Restore a sufficient proportion of all aquatic macrophytes to allow them to reproduce in suitable habitat and remain unaffected by river management practices. Coverage and composition and aquatic plants should reflect un-impacted or minimally impacted conditions</p> <p>Screening of intakes and discharges: All intakes and discharges likely to trap a significant number of individuals of characteristic species are being adequately screened.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Flow regime, water quality and physical habitat should be maintained in, or restored as far as possible to, a near-natural state, in order to support the coherence of ecosystem structure and function across the whole area of the ACA.</li> <li>■ All known breeding, spawning and nursery sites of species features should be maintained as suitable habitat as far as possible, except where natural processes cause them to change.</li> <li>■ Flows, water quality, substrate quality and quantity at fish spawning sites and nursery areas will not be depleted by abstraction, discharges, engineering or gravel extraction activities or other impacts to the extent that these sites are damaged or destroyed.</li> <li>■ The river planform and profile should be predominantly unmodified. Physical modifications having an adverse effect on the integrity of the ACA, including, but not limited to, revetments on active alluvial river banks using stone, concrete or waste materials, unsustainable extraction of gravel, addition or release of excessive quantities of fine sediment, will be avoided.</li> <li>■ River habitat SSSI features should be in favourable condition. In the case of the Usk Tributaries SSSI, the ACA habitat is not underpinned by a river habitat SSSI feature. In this case, the target is to maintain the characteristic physical features of the river channel, banks and riparian zone.</li> <li>■ Artificial factors impacting on the capability of each species feature to occupy the full extent of its natural range should be modified where necessary to allow passage, eg. weirs, bridge sills, acoustic barriers.</li> <li>■ Natural factors such as waterfalls, which may limit the natural range of a species feature or</li> </ul>

European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
				<p>Supporting off-site habitat: Habitats beyond the site boundary upon which characteristic biological communities of the site depend should be restored to a state that does not impair the full expression of the characteristic biota within the site.</p> <p>Water chemistry – alkalinity: Maintain natural levels of alkalinity</p> <p>Water quality – nutrients: The natural nutrient regime of the river should be protected, with any anthropogenic enrichment above natural/background concentrations should be limited to levels at which adverse effects on characteristic biodiversity are unlikely.</p> <p>Water quality - organic pollution: Organic pollution levels should be controlled to levels that have minimal impact on the characteristic biota</p> <p>Water quality – acidification: Maintain levels of acidity to those which reflect unimpacted conditions [adviser to add values of Acid Neutralising Capacity (ANC) and pH used within FCTs (these are the same numerical values as used to protect high ecological status under the WFD in the UK)].</p> <p>Water quality - other pollutants: Achieve at least 'Good' chemical status (i.e. compliance with relevant Environmental Quality Standards).</p> <p><u>Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i>, Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i>, and River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i></u></p> <p>Distribution of supporting habitat: Restore the distribution and continuity of the feature and its supporting habitat, including where applicable its component vegetation types and associated transitional vegetation types, across the site.</p> <p>Extent of supporting habitat: Restore the total extent of the habitat(s) H3260 (2147.64 hectares).</p>	<p>dispersal between naturally isolated populations, should not be modified.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Flows during the normal migration periods of each migratory fish species feature will not be depleted by abstraction to the extent that passage upstream to spawning sites is hindered.</li> <li>■ Flow objectives for assessment points in the Usk Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy will be agreed between EA and CCW as necessary. It is anticipated that these limits will concur with the standards used by the Review of Consents process given in Annex 1 of this document.</li> <li>■ Levels of nutrients, in particular phosphate, will be agreed between EA and CCW for each Water Framework Directive water body in the Usk ACA, and measures taken to maintain nutrients below these levels. It is anticipated that these limits will concur with the standards used by the Review of Consents process given in Annex 2 of this document.</li> <li>■ Levels of water quality parameters that are known to affect the distribution and abundance of ACA features will be agreed between EA and CCW for each Water Framework Directive water body in the Usk ACA, and measures taken to maintain pollution below these levels. It is anticipated that these limits will concur with the standards used by the Review of Consents process given in Annex 3 of this document.</li> <li>■ Potential sources of pollution not addressed in the Review of Consents, such as contaminated land, will be considered in assessing plans and projects.</li> <li>■ Levels of suspended solids will be agreed between EA and CCW for each Water Framework Directive water body in the Usk ACA. Measures including, but not limited to, the control of suspended sediment generated by</li> </ul>

European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
				<p>Biological connectivity: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Biotope mosaic: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Flow regime: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Integrity of off-site habitats: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Riparian zone: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Screening of intakes and discharges: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Sediment regime: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Soils, substrate and nutrient cycling: Restore the properties of the underlying soil types, including structure, bulk density, total carbon, pH, soil nutrient status and fungal: bacterial ratio, within typical values for the supporting habitat.</p> <p>Water quality – acidification: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Water quality – nutrients: Restore the natural nutrient regime of the rivers, with any anthropogenic enrichment above natural/background concentrations limited to levels at which adverse effects on the feature are unlikely.</p> <p>Woody debris: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Adaptation and resilience: Restore] the feature's ability, and that of its supporting habitat, to adapt or evolve to wider environmental change, either within or external to the site</p> <p>Conservation measures: Restore the management measures which are necessary to restore the structure, functions and supporting processes</p>	<p>agriculture, forestry and engineering works, will be taken to maintain suspended solids below these levels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The population of the feature in the ACA is stable or increasing over the long term.</li> <li>■ The natural range of the feature in the ACA is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. The natural range is taken to mean those reaches where predominantly suitable habitat for each life stage exists over the long term. Suitable habitat is defined in terms of near-natural hydrological and geomorphological processes and forms eg. Suitable flows to allow upstream migration, depth of water and substrate type at spawning sites, and ecosystem structure and functions eg. Food supply (as described in sections 2.2 and 5). Suitable habitat need not be present throughout the ACA but where present must be secured for the foreseeable future. Natural factors such as waterfalls may limit the natural range of individual species. Existing artificial influences on natural range that cause an adverse effect on site integrity, such as physical barriers to migration, will be assessed in view of 4.2.4</li> <li>■ There is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain the feature's population in the ACA on a long-term basis.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pressures and threats:</b></p> <p><b>Barriers:</b> Physical modification of barriers is required where depth/velocity/duration of flows is unsuitable to allow passage. Management to reduce or remove the effect of this barrier is a high priority for the River Usk ACA. Barriers resulting from vibration, chemicals, low dissolved oxygen and artificially high sediment levels must be prevented at key times (generally March to June).</p>



European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
				<p>associated with the feature and/or its supporting habitats.</p> <p>Water quantity/quality: Where the feature or its supporting habitat is dependent on surface water and/or groundwater restore water quality and quantity to a standard which provides the necessary conditions to support the feature</p> <p><u>Twaite shad <i>Alosa fallax</i> and Allis shad <i>Alosa alosa</i></u></p> <p>Distribution of supporting habitat: Restore the distribution and continuity of the feature and its supporting habitat, including where applicable its component vegetation types and associated transitional vegetation types, across the site</p> <p>Extent of supporting habitat: Restore the total extent of the H3260 habitat which support the feature (2147.64 hectares)</p> <p>Biological connectivity: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Biotope mosaic: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Flow regime: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Riparian zone: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Sediment regime: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Soils, substrate and nutrient cycling: Restore the properties of the underlying soil types, including structure, bulk density, total carbon, pH, soil nutrient status and fungal: bacterial ratio, within typical values for the supporting habitat</p> <p>Vegetation composition: invasive non-native species: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Water quality – nutrients: Restore the natural nutrient regime of the rivers, with any anthropogenic</p>	<p><b>Development:</b> Development pressure in the lower catchment can cause temporary physical, acoustic, chemical and sediment barrier effects. Contamination of the river can arise when this is disturbed e.g. as a result of development. Contamination can also arise from pollution events (which could be shipping or industry related).</p> <p><b>Noise:</b> The impact of acoustic (ie noise/vibration) and sediment/chemical barriers arising from plans or projects . When arising from construction or other development related activities it may be necessary to restrict the timing of such activities. Noise/vibration e.g. due to impact piling, drilling, salmon fish counters present within or in close proximity to the river can create a barrier to migration.</p> <p><b>Flow:</b> The impact of flow depletion resulting from a small number of major abstractions. Flow targets have been set which are considered likely to significantly reduce or remove the impacts on ACA features. There are also requirements for screening of intakes to reduce or remove the impact of impingement and entrainment on juvenile fish migrating downstream.</p> <p><b>Entrainment:</b> Entrainment in water abstractions directly impacts on population dynamics through reduced recruitment and survival rates.</p> <p><b>Fishing:</b> Anglers occasionally fish for shad, and they are sometimes taken in quite large numbers. Commercial fishermen also take shad as a by-catch, with whitebait and shrimp fishing being of particular concern. Artificially enhanced densities of other fish may introduce unacceptable competition or predation pressure and the aim should be to minimise these risks in considering any proposals for stocking.</p> <p><b>Pollution:</b> Sources of diffuse pollution and siltation are from agriculture, including fertiliser run-off, livestock manure, silage effluent and soil erosion from ploughed land. Among toxic pollutants, sheep dip and silage effluent present a particular threat to aquatic animals in this predominantly rural area</p>



European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
				<p>enrichment above natural/background concentrations limited to levels at which adverse effects on the feature are unlikely.</p> <p>Woody debris: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Adaptation and resilience: Restore the feature's ability, and that of its supporting habitat, to adapt or evolve to wider environmental change, either within or external to the site</p> <p>Conservation measures: Restore the management measures (either within and/or outside the site boundary as appropriate) which are necessary to restore the structure, functions and supporting processes associated with the feature and/or its supporting habitats.</p> <p>Integrity of off-site habitats: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Vegetation structure: cover of submerged macrophytes: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Water quantity/ quality: Where the feature or its supporting habitat is dependent on surface water and/or groundwater restore water quality and quantity to a standard which provides the necessary conditions to support the feature</p> <p><u>Atlantic salmon <i>Salmo salar</i></u></p> <p>Distribution of supporting habitat</p> <p>: Restore the distribution and continuity of the feature and its supporting habitat, including where applicable its component vegetation types and associated transitional vegetation types, across the site. See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p>	<p><b>Tree management:</b> Maintenance of intermittent tree cover in conjunction with retention of woody debris helps to ensure that habitat conditions are suitable. At least 50% high canopy cover to the water course/banks should be maintained, where appropriate.</p> <p><b>Invasive non-native plants:</b> Giant hogweed, Himalayan balsam and Japanese knotweed should be actively managed to control their spread and hopefully reduce their extent in the ACA.</p> <p>The Natura 2000 Standard Data Form for the Site also indicates the following additional pressures/threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Grazing; and</li> <li>■ Other ecosystem modifications.</li> </ul>

European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
				<p>Extent of supporting habitat: Restore the total extent of the H3260 habitat (2147.64 hectares). See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Biological connectivity: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Biotope mosaic: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Flow regime: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Riparian zone: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Sediment regime: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Soils, substrate and nutrient cycling: Restore the properties of the underlying soil types, including structure, bulk density, total carbon, pH, soil nutrient status and fungal: bacterial ratio, within typical values for the supporting habitat. See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Thermal regime: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Vegetation composition: invasive non-native species: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Water quality - acidification: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Water quality – nutrients: Restore the natural nutrient regime of the river with any anthropogenic enrichment above natural/background concentrations limited to levels at which adverse effects on the feature are unlikely.</p> <p>Woody debris: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Adaptation and resilience: Restore the feature's ability, and that of its supporting habitat, to adapt or evolve to wider environmental change, either within or</p>	

European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
				<p>external to the site. See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Conservation measures: Restore the management measures (either within and/or outside the site boundary as appropriate) which are necessary to restore the structure, functions and supporting processes associated with the feature and/or its supporting habitats. See advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Integrity of off-site habitats: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Vegetation structure: cover of submerged macrophytes: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Water quantity / quality: Where the feature or its supporting habitat is dependent on surface water and/or groundwater, restore water quality and quantity to a standard which provides the necessary conditions to support the feature [adviser to provide site-specific standards where available].</p> <p><u>Bullhead <i>Cottus gobio</i></u></p> <p>Distribution of supporting habitat: Restore the distribution and continuity of the feature and its supporting habitat, including where applicable its component vegetation types and associated transitional vegetation types, across the site. See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Extent of supporting habitat: Restore the total extent of the H3260 habitats (2147.64 ha). See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Biological connectivity: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Biotope mosaic: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p>	

European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
				<p>Flow regime: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Integrity of off-site habitats: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Riparian zone: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Sediment regime: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Soils, substrate and nutrient cycling: Restore the properties of the underlying soil types, including structure, bulk density, total carbon, pH, soil nutrient status and fungal: bacterial ratio, within typical values for the supporting habitat.</p> <p>Vegetation composition: invasive non-native species: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Vegetation structure: cover of submerged macrophytes: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Water quality – acidification: See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Water quality - nutrients: Restore the natural nutrient regime of the rivers, with any anthropogenic enrichment above natural/background concentrations limited to levels at which adverse effects on the feature are unlikely.</p> <p>Woody debris: See general advice for river habitat (H3260)</p> <p>Adaptation and resilience: Restore the feature's ability, and that of its supporting habitat, to adapt or evolve to wider environmental change, either within or external to the site.</p> <p>Conservation measures: Restore the management measures (either within and/or outside the site boundary as appropriate) which are necessary to restore the structure, functions and supporting processes associated with the feature and/or its</p>	

European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
				<p>supporting habitats. See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Water quantity / quality: Where the feature or its supporting habitat is dependent on surface water and/or groundwater, Restore water quality and quantity to a standard which provides the necessary conditions to support the feature</p> <p><u>Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i></u></p> <p>Distribution of supporting habitat: Restore the distribution and continuity of the feature and its supporting habitat, including where applicable its component vegetation types and associated transitional vegetation types, across the site.</p> <p>Extent of supporting habitat: Restore the total extent of the H3260 habitat 2147.64ha See : general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Abundance of breeding and resting places: Restore an abundance of natural breeding and resting sites within the site. See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Availability of refugia: Restore an abundance of dense bankside vegetation to limit significant disturbance to animals. See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Food availability: Restore fish biomass within expected natural levels for the supporting habitat (subject to natural fluctuations). See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Habitat quality - coastal habitat: Restore the quality of supporting [coastal] habitat features.</p> <p>Habitat quality - river habitat: Restore the quality of supporting river habitat features, based on the advice for H3260 habitat, based on natural river function, which provides a characteristic biotope mosaic that caters for otters. See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p>	

European site	Area (ha)	Location in relation to the RCT boundary	Qualifying features	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend	Key vulnerabilities and environmental conditions to support site integrity
				<p>Habitat quality - waterway habitat: Restore the quality of supporting waterways habitat features.</p> <p>Habitat quality [coastal sites]: Freshwater availability: Restore the overall availability and quality of supporting freshwater habitat (i.e. the number of streams or water bodies on or near the site) See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Soils, substrate and nutrient cycling: Restore the properties of the underlying soil types, including structure, bulk density, total carbon, pH, soil nutrient status and fungal: bacterial ratio, within typical values for the supporting habitat.</p> <p>Water flow [rivers]: Restore the natural flow regime of the river to that close to what would be expected in the absence of abstractions and discharges (the 'naturalised' flow). See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Water quality / quantity: Restore water quality and quantity to a standard which provides the necessary conditions to support the feature See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Adaptation and resilience: Restore the feature's ability, and that of its supporting habitat, to adapt or evolve to wider environmental change, either within or external to the site.</p> <p>Connectivity within and to the site: Ensure there are no significant artificial barriers to the safe passage and movement of otters into, within and away from the site. See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p> <p>Conservation measures: Restore the management measures (either within and/or outside the site boundary as appropriate) which are necessary to restore the structure, functions and supporting processes associated with the feature and/or its supporting habitats. See general advice for river habitat (H3260).</p>	

## Appendix D

### Screening Matrix

**D.1** The table below shows which types of impacts on European sites could potentially result from each of the elements of the Revised LDP. Where a component of the consultation document is not expected to have a particular type of impact, the relevant cell is shaded green. Where there could potentially be a certain type of impact, this is shown in orange. The final column sets out the nature of the potential significant effects if they were to arise. Where uncertain or likely significant effects are identified, these are required to be considered further via the Appropriate Assessment.

**Table D.1: Screening Matrix**

Component of the Preferred Strategy consultation document	Likely activities (operation) to result as a consequence of the proposal	Potential effects if proposal implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
Preferred Strategy	<p>Development of 8,450 new homes.</p> <p>Employment development (3,990 jobs).</p> <p>Increase in vehicle traffic.</p> <p>Increased demand for water abstraction/treatment.</p> <p>Increased recreation activities.</p>	<p>Physical damage and loss of habitat.</p> <p>Non-physical disturbance.</p> <p>Non-toxic contamination.</p> <p>Air pollution.</p> <p>Erosion/trampling.</p> <p>Interruption to hydrological regimes.</p>	<p>Yes. The overall scale of new development proposed is likely to result in likely significant effects as detailed.</p>
Potential Key Site 1 – Penrhys Village (NSA)	<p>Advance plans in place for the redevelopment of the village of Penrhys, including replacing the existing housing with up to 700 new dwellings (500 within the plan period), alongside the replacement and improvement of public facilities and services.</p>	<p>Air pollution</p> <p>Water quantity</p>	<p>Yes. This policy makes provision for up to 700 new dwellings (500 within the plan period) and therefore may contribute to effects including air pollution and changes to water quantity. All other impacts are screened out due to the site's distance from any European site.</p>
Potential Key Site 2- Land South of Hirwaun (NSA)	<p>Proposals include 15-20ha of employment land and 30-40ha of land appropriate for future tourism opportunities and investment. This will partly be delivered through SP7 and SP9 (see below).</p>	<p>Physical damage and loss (offsite only)</p> <p>Non-toxic contamination</p> <p>Air pollution</p> <p>Recreational pressures</p> <p>Water quantity</p>	<p>Yes. This policy makes provision for employment land and tourism opportunities and therefore may contribute to effects including physical damage and loss (offsite only), non-toxic contamination, air pollution, recreational pressures and changes in water quantity.</p>
Potential Key Site 3 – Land at Llanilid (SSA)	<p>Proposals to create a sustainable mixed-use development with potential for over 3,000 houses although only a maximum of 1,500 will come forward during the plan period to 2037.</p>	<p>Air pollution</p> <p>Recreation</p> <p>Water quantity</p>	<p>Yes. This policy makes provision for over 3000 new dwellings and therefore may contribute to effects including air pollution, recreational pressures and changes in water quantity. All other impacts have been screened out due to the</p>



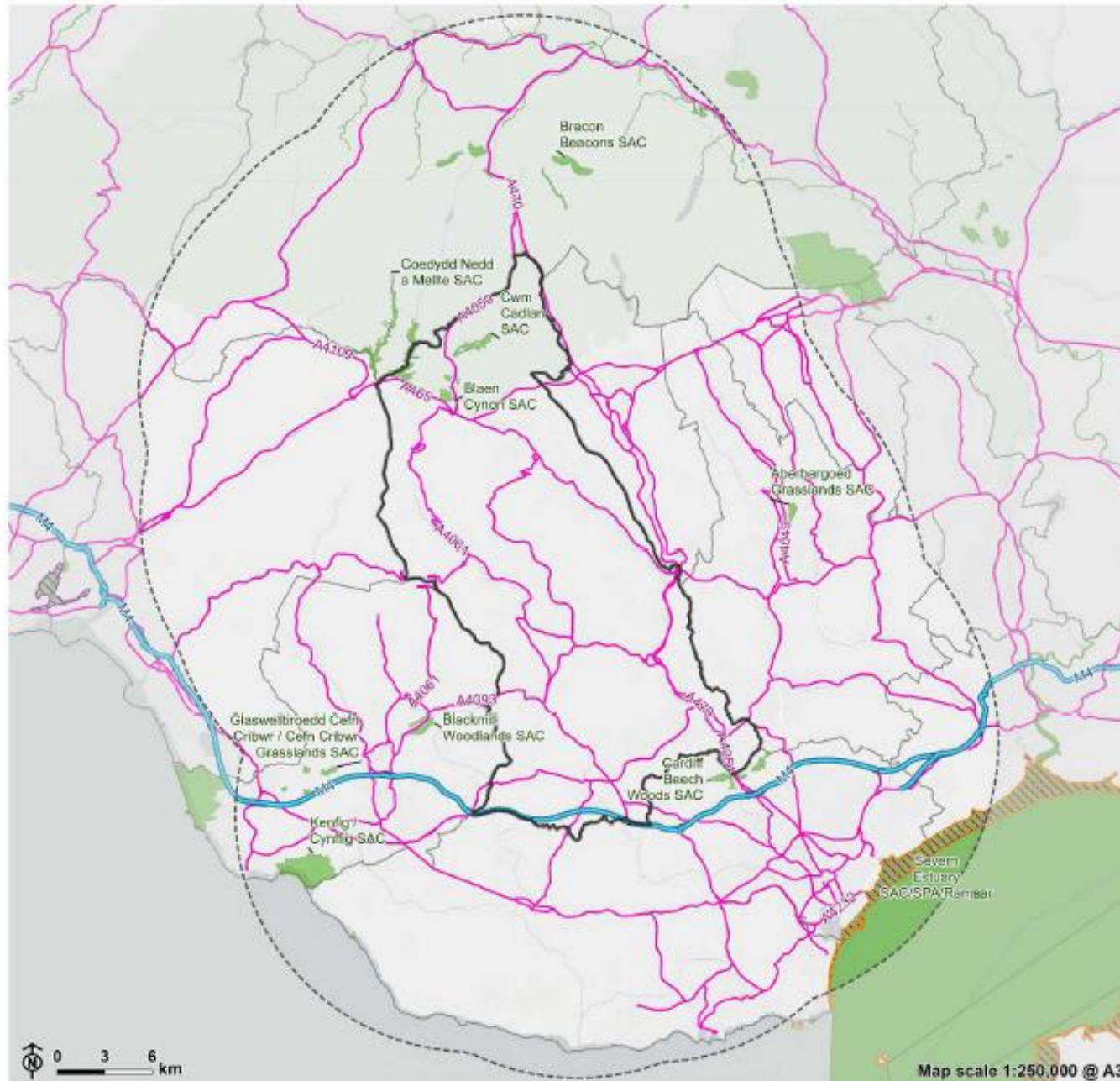
Component of the Preferred Strategy consultation document	Likely activities (operation) to result as a consequence of the proposal	Potential effects if proposal implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
			distance of the site from any European site.
Potential Key Site 4 – Llanilltud Faerdref/Efail Isaf (SSA)	Proposals for up to 1,000 new homes, as well as a new school, local shops, shared working hub, playing fields and green infrastructure networks.	Air pollution Recreation Water quality	Yes. This policy makes provision for 1000 new dwellings and local facilities and therefore may contribute to effects including air pollution, recreational pressures and changes in water quantity. All other impacts have been screened out due to the distance of the site from any European site.
SP1 Climate Change and Carbon	None – this policy outlines the requirement for development proposals to demonstrate climate consideration and reduce carbon emissions, including choosing development sites in sustainable locations.	N/A	No
SP2 Placemaking and Sustainable Communities	None – this policy outlines the expectation for development to contribute to the vision of the future of RCT, creating sustainable places that promote the prosperity, health, happiness and well-being of the community.	N/A	No
SP3 Flood Risk Management	None – this policy outlines the requirement for new developments to be located in places which would not put them at an unacceptable risk of flooding, whilst ensuring all development is appropriately flood resilient and resistant.	N/A	No
SP4 Biodiversity and the Natural Environment	None – this policy outlines how the Revised LDP will seek to maintain and enhance the priority habitats and species within RCT and enhance biodiversity.	N/A	No
SP5 Green Infrastructure and Open Space	None – this policy outlines the responsibility of the Revised LDP to protect,	N/A	No

Component of the Preferred Strategy consultation document	Likely activities (operation) to result as a consequence of the proposal	Potential effects if proposal implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
	manage and enhance green infrastructure within RCT.		
SP6 - Housing	This policy outlines the housing requirement of 9,295 dwellings within the plan period 2022-2037	Physical damage and loss Non-physical disturbance Non-toxic contamination Air pollution Recreational pressure Water quantity	Yes. This policy makes provision for 9,295 dwellings and therefore may contribute to effects, including physical damage and loss, non-physical disturbance, non-toxic contamination, air pollution, recreational pressure and changes in water quantity.
SP7 Employment Land and the Economy	This policy outlines the support for new and expanding RCT businesses and development proposals for B1, B2 and B8 use classes. The policy includes employment allocations and land within existing employment landbank sites.	Physical damage and loss Non-physical disturbance Non-toxic contamination Air pollution Water quantity	Yes. This policy allocates land for employment uses and therefore may contribute to effects including physical damage and loss, non-physical disturbance, non-toxic contamination, air pollution and changes in water quantity.
SP8 Settlement Centres	None – this policy outlines the role of settlement centres in RCT and sets out the types of developments that will be appropriate within those centres but does not directly allocate land for development.	N/A	No
SP 9 Tourism	The policy outlines the support of the Revised LDP for tourism developments and includes the Key Site of Land South of Hirwaun.	Physical damage and loss (offsite only) Non-toxic contamination Air pollution Recreational pressures Water quantity	Yes. This policy supports tourism developments, including Key Site 2 and therefore may contribute to effects including physical damage and loss (offsite only), non-toxic contamination, air pollution, recreational pressures and changes in water quantity.

## **Appendix E**

### **Map of Strategic Roads within 200m of European sites**

Figure E.1: European sites and strategic roads within 15km



-  Rhondda Cynon Taf boundary
-  15km buffer
-  Neighbouring Local Authority
-  Special Protection Area
-  Ramsar site
-  Special Area of Conservation
-  Motorway
-  A road

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