

Smith, Martha

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From: Marine Licensing <marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>  
Sent: 19 July 2023 10:20  
To: Jones, Andrew  
Cc: Loder, Rebecca; Modhvardia, Rahul  
Subject: RE: Q23062 - A48 Chepstow - Category 1 Drainage Issues

Hi Andy,

That's correct. Although the excavator would be located above MHWS, the material being removed is below MHWS and therefore within the marine licensable area. As such, a marine licence would still be required.

Kind regards,

Jack

Swyddog Trwyddedu Morol / Marine Licensing Officer

Cyfarwyddiaeth Tystiolaeth, Polisi a Thrwyddedu | Evidence, Policy and Permitting Directorate

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From: Jones, Andrew <Andrew.Jones@wsp.com>  
Sent: 19 July 2023 09:34  
To: Marine Licensing <marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>  
Cc: Loder, Rebecca <rebecca.Loder@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>; Modhvardia, Rahul <Rahul.Modhvardia@wsp.com>  
Subject: RE: Q23062 - A48 Chepstow - Category 1 Drainage Issues

**Rhybudd:** Deilliodd yr e-bost hwn o'r tu allan i'r sefydliad. Peidiwch â chlicio dolenni nac atodiadau agored oni bai eich bod yn cydnabod yr anfonwr ac yn gwybod bod y cynnwys yn ddiogel.

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Hi Jack

Ok, understood. The current plan is to use a long reach excavator located alongside the riverbank (above the waterline and away from the mud and silt). I guess that locating the machinery at this higher level would still require a marine licence?

I'm not convinced than removing the mud and silt by hand would be safe, but will discuss with the team if required.

Kind Regards  
Andy



**Andrew Jones**  
Associate

**T+ 44 (0)2920 769225**

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From: Marine Licensing <[marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)>  
Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2023 11:44 AM  
To: Jones, Andrew <[Andrew.Jones@wsp.com](mailto:Andrew.Jones@wsp.com)>  
Cc: Loder, Rebecca <[rebecca.Loder@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:rebecca.Loder@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)>  
Subject: Q23062 - A48 Chepstow - Category 1 Drainage Issues

Good morning Andy,

Thank you for providing that figure, I think it's safe to assume that the outfall will be located below MHWS and as such, is within the marine licensable area.

Although SWTRA are agents to the Welsh Government, they are not acting on behalf of Natural Resources Wales and therefore, as detailed previously, the exemption doesn't apply and a Band 1 licence is required for these works to be undertaken. If, however, the material is removed by hand and no machinery is involved, then a marine licence would not be required. Other consents such as a FRAP may still be required though.

As you have mentioned, the 6 week SLA is the maximum timeframe in which the Marine Licensing Team are required to process Band 1 cases. It is likely that the application will be determined before this deadline however, it is dependent on whether any issues arise during consultation.

I've assigned your query a reference number, Q23062, which you can quote in any future correspondence.

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Jack

[Swyddog Trwyddedu Morol](#) / Marine Licensing Officer  
[Cyfarwyddiaeth Tystiolaeth, Polisi a Thrwyddedu](#) | Evidence, Policy and Permitting Directorate

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From: Jones, Andrew [Andrew.Jones@wsp.com](mailto:Andrew.Jones@wsp.com)  
Sent: 17 July 2023 17:24  
To: Marine Licensing [marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)  
Cc: Modhvadia, Rahul [Rahul.Modhvadia@wsp.com](mailto:Rahul.Modhvadia@wsp.com)  
Subject: RE: A48 Chepstow - Category 1 Drainage Issues

Rhybudd: Deilliodd yr e-bost hwn o'r tu allan i'r sefydliad. Peidiwch â chlicio dolenni nac atodiadau agored oni bai eich bod yn cydnabod yr anfonwr ac yn gwybod bod y cynnwys yn ddiogel.

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Afternoon Jack

I've received a figure of 6.9m as a station in Beachley. Its not in the Wye, but not a million miles away. Either way, the values here and in Newport are higher than the level of the outfall invert.

Kind Regards  
Andy



**Andrew Jones**  
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From: Jones, Andrew <[Andrew.Jones@wsp.com](mailto:Andrew.Jones@wsp.com)>  
Sent: 17 July 2023 14:24  
To: Marine Licensing <[marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)>  
Cc: Modhvadia, Rahul <[Rahul.Modhvadia@wsp.com](mailto:Rahul.Modhvadia@wsp.com)>  
Subject: RE: A48 Chepstow - Category 1 Drainage Issues

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Hi Jack

I will hopefully confirm later this afternoon, when a member of the Water Team is available.

Can you please clarify your comment regarding the SLA of 6 weeks? Does this mean it'll take 6 weeks to process a licence application? SWTRA (as agents to the Welsh Government) deem the clearance and investigations to be emergency works as they have been made aware of a flooding incident by a third party which may result in a claim against the Welsh Government. The flooding will recur during virtually every rainfall event, exacerbating the problems, hence there is an urgency to clear the headwall to ensure the outlet is working as it should.

Kind Regards  
Andy



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From: Marine Licensing <[marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)>  
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 12:40 PM  
To: Jones, Andrew <[Andrew.Jones@wsp.com](mailto:Andrew.Jones@wsp.com)>  
Cc: Modhvadia, Rahul <[Rahul.Modhvadia@wsp.com](mailto:Rahul.Modhvadia@wsp.com)>  
Subject: RE: A48 Chepstow - Category 1 Drainage Issues

Hi Andrew,

No problem, given the outfalls location, I think it is likely to be below MHWS however, you'll need to confirm this.

As the works are not being carried out on behalf of Natural Resources Wales, they would not fall under our [flood risk exemption](#). As the works involve the removal of material to assist with the drainage of an outfall, these works would be classed as a [Band 1 activity](#).

Band 1 licence applications have a service level agreement of 6 weeks, are charged at a fixed rate of £600 and can be issued for a maximum duration of 12 months. Further information regarding the Band 1 licensing process can be found [here](#).

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

Jack

Swyddog Trwyddedu Morol / Marine Licensing Officer

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From: Jones, Andrew <[Andrew.Jones@wsp.com](mailto:Andrew.Jones@wsp.com)>

Sent: 17 July 2023 12:07

To: Marine Licensing <[marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)>

Cc: Modhvadia, Rahul <[Rahul.Modhvadia@wsp.com](mailto:Rahul.Modhvadia@wsp.com)>

Subject: RE: A48 Chepstow - Category 1 Drainage Issues

Rhybudd: Deilliodd yr e-bost hwn o'r tu allan i'r sefydliad. Peidiwch â chlicio dolenni nac atodiadau agored oni bai eich bod yn cydnabod yr anfonwr ac yn gwybod bod y cynnwys yn ddiogel.

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Afternoon Jack

Thanks for getting back to me. Someone from our Water Team provided me with the following info last week:

- Newport Tidal Gauge Station - MHWS is 6.33m AOD

That person is on leave this week, so I've been trying to get hold of someone else in the Team to confirm this figure and its source. I've failed miserably searching online!

Kind Regards  
Andy



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From: Marine Licensing <[marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)>

Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 11:06 AM

To: Jones, Andrew <[Andrew.Jones@wsp.com](mailto:Andrew.Jones@wsp.com)>

Cc: Modhvadia, Rahul <[Rahul.Modhvadia@wsp.com](mailto:Rahul.Modhvadia@wsp.com)>  
Subject: RE: A48 Chepstow - Category 1 Drainage Issues

Good morning Andy,

Firstly, could you confirm whether the outfall is located above or below Mean High Water Springs (MHWS). If it is below MHWS, then it would fall within the marine licensable area however, if it is above MHWS, then it would not.

Once we know this, we'll be able to advise you further.

Kind regards,

Jack

Swyddog Trwyddedu Morol / Marine Licensing Officer

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From: Jones, Andrew <[Andrew.Jones@wsp.com](mailto:Andrew.Jones@wsp.com)>  
Sent: 17 July 2023 10:29  
To: Marine Licensing <[marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)>  
Cc: Modhvadia, Rahul <[Rahul.Modhvadia@wsp.com](mailto:Rahul.Modhvadia@wsp.com)>  
Subject: FW: A48 Chepstow - Category 1 Drainage Issues

**Rhybudd:** Deilliodd yr e-bost hwn o'r tu allan i'r sefydliad. Peidiwch â chlicio dolenni nac atodiadau agored oni bai eich bod yn cydnabod yr anfonwr ac yn gwybod bod y cynnwys yn ddiogel.

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Good Morning

I have just sent the email below to your colleagues from a FRAP perspective, but I believe that the level of the outfall into the river Wye in Chepstow would also put the proposals into marine licencing territory. I would be grateful for you advice regarding the emergency works described below.

Kind Regards  
Andy



**Andrew Jones**

Associate

**T+ 44 (0)2920 769225**

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From: Jones, Andrew

Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 10:14 AM

To: [Gary.Purnell@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:Gary.Purnell@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk); [rebecca.Loder@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:rebecca.Loder@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)

Cc: Modhvadia, Rahul <[Rahul.Modhvadia@wsp.com](mailto:Rahul.Modhvadia@wsp.com)>

Subject: A48 Chepstow - Category 1 Drainage Issues

Good morning both

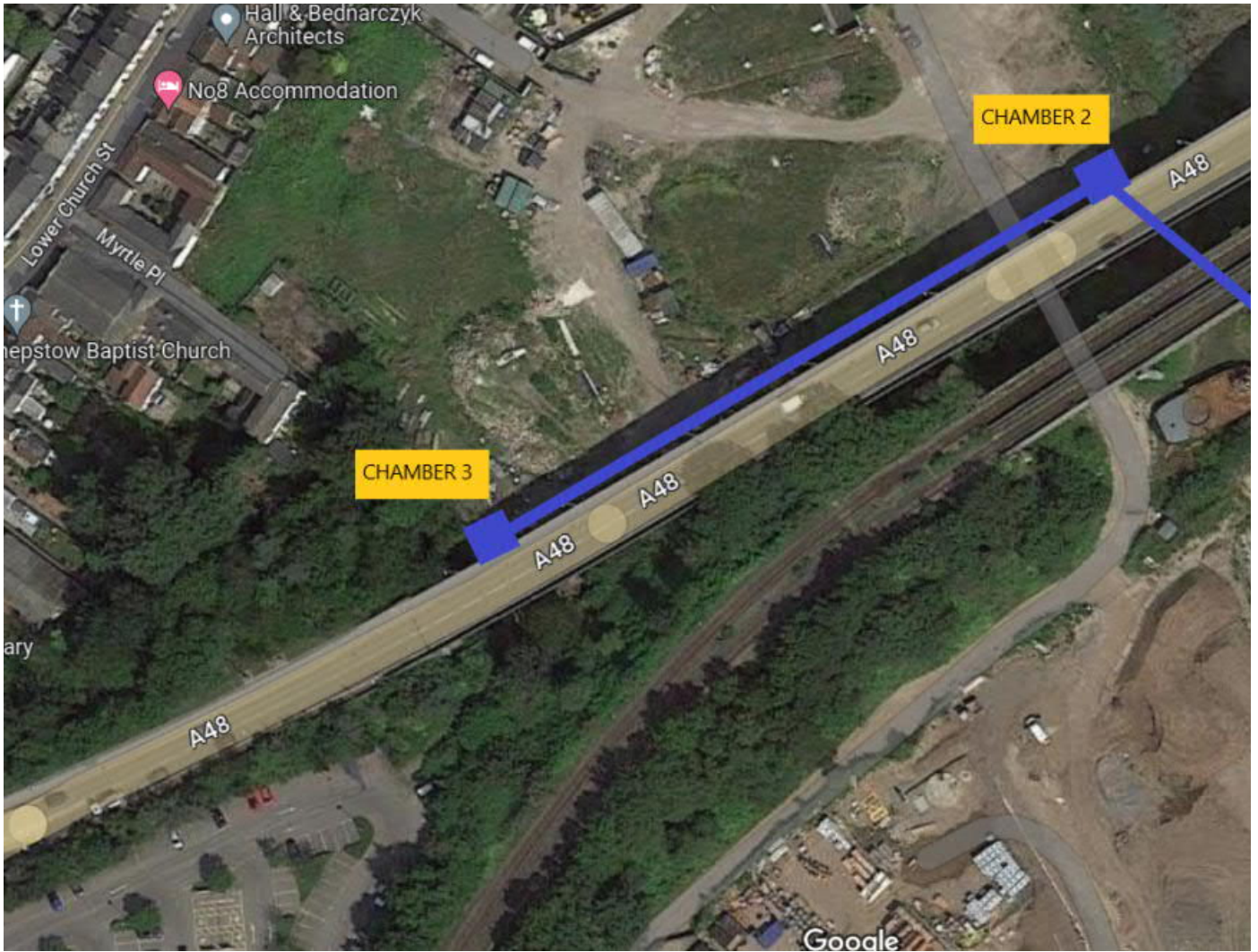
I apologise for emailing you both out of the blue, but a colleague of mine has passed me your contact details as you were consulted for other SWTRA/Welsh Government works at the M4 Ebbw River Bridge, Newport.

SWTRA has commissioned WSP to look at an issue with their highway drainage system in Chepstow and we urgently need to access and clear an existing outfall into the River Wye and undertake drainage investigations from an associated chamber, located several metres inland. As the associated drainage problem is causing flooding of private land nearby, this is considered to be emergency work and arrangements are being made for clearing and investigation operations to take place this week. The site is located below the A48 road bridge and crossed beneath both road and rail bridges.

Here is a snapshot to show the location of interest. We want to start clearing the headwall/outfall as it is completely buried with mud and silt. The cover of chamber 1 appears to have been buried and needs to be located and exposed so it can be inspected and cleared as necessary. The intention is to then clean and inspect the drain up to chamber 2 by jetting and CCTV, then continuing upstream to chamber 3. We do not know whether chamber 2 exists, but we do know that the drain takes the route indicated by the blue line, so would expect to find a chamber at the change in direction. The outlet from Chamber 3 is blocked and therefore surcharges during times of rainfall, flooding the surrounding land.

As a further complication, the original construction detail for the outfall indicate it is at 4.000m AOD and may therefore fall under marine licensing as well? Original detail attached for information.

I'd be grateful for your advice in relation to the proposals above.



Kind Regards  
Andy



**Andrew Jones**

Associate

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