

# Apply for a Band 1 marine licence

## Project description

Project name

Newport Connect Subsea Fibre Optic Cable - Marine Survey & Site Investigation works

Please provide a brief description of the proposed project, including location.

McMahon Design and Management Ltd (MDM) is working to identify a cable route and cable landing locations for the development of a new subsea fibre optic cable system, known as Newport Connect, with proposed landfalls located at Uphill Beach Weston-Super-Mare and St Brides Wentloog, Newport.

This Marine Licence Application is for the site investigation works that will be predominately composed of a geophysical survey and a geotechnical survey. A cable route corridor of approximately 9.1 km in length and 314 hectares in English waters and 18.1 km and 674 hectares in Welsh Waters will be surveyed for the geophysical survey and geotechnical works. The cable route survey corridor covers the proposed landfall at Uphill Beach, Weston-Super-Mare, with a survey corridor through Weston Bay and traversing the Severn Estuary to the Northwest. The route heads north westwards from the landfall at Uphill Beach, turning North at Flat Holm and continuing generally north/eastwards to Newport.

Does the activity have an estimated project cost for marine works over £1 million? If yes, the activity is no longer eligible for a band 1 application and a band 3 application will be required.

No

## Applicant details

To whom the licence will be issued. This must be a legal entity such as an individual, registered company/ charity or public body.

<b>Title</b>	Mr
<b>Full name</b>	Kevin Whyte
<b>Company or trading name</b>	Project Engineer
<b>Company Registration Number (if applicable)</b>	Project Engineer
<b>Name of contact or individual (if different)</b>	As above
<b>Position in company</b>	Project Engineer
<b>Address (provide registered company address if applicable)</b>	15 The Seapoint Building, 44-45 Clontarf Road, Clontarf, Dublin, County Dublin, Ireland
	-
	-
<b>Postcode</b>	D3
<b>Telephone number</b>	+35318536500
<b>Email address</b>	kwhyte@mdmeng.ie

# Details of agent, contractor, vehicles and/or vessels used to carry out works

Agent details	
This is who we will correspond with unless otherwise informed. If no agent is identified we will contact the applicant.	
<b>Title</b>	Mr
<b>Full name</b>	Nick O'Brien
<b>Company or trading name</b>	Apem Ltd.
<b>Company Registration Number (if applicable)</b>	Principal Marine Consultant
<b>Name of contact or individual (if different)</b>	Ambar Villanueva-Brackley
<b>Position in company</b>	Marine Consultant
<b>Address (provide registered company address if applicable)</b>	Riverview, A17 Embankment Business Park, Heaton Mersey, Stockport, UK.
	-
	-
<b>Postcode</b>	SK4 3GN
<b>Telephone number</b>	07920792185
<b>Email address</b>	a.villanueva-brackley@apemltd.co.uk

Does the applicant wish to be included in all correspondence?
Yes

Will the works require the use of vessels?
Yes

Will the works require the use of any vehicles?
No

## Proposed project details

### Licensable period

Determination of applications will be based on the works taking place during these dates. Please ensure you have included an adequate contingency period. If works are not completed by the requested licence expiry date you may be required to submit a new application. Including a contingency period within your original application does not impact on the licence fee.

**Start date (DD/MM/YYYY)** 31/07/2024

**Requested licence expiry date (DD/MM/YYYY)** 31/07/2025

Please detail the location of the proposed project.

This should be either Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (i.e. SN 12345 67890) or Latitude and Longitude in decimal degrees to 4 decimal places (i.e. Lat 52.1234 Long -4.1234), defining the extent of the project. Please specify which coordinate system has been used and if using GIS co-ordinates, specify which projection has been used.

Latitude Longitude

51.387326 -3.07143

51.395393 -3.077032

51.424611 -3.076316

51.432735 -3.061528

51.441806 -3.050201

51.451263 -3.041367

51.482694 -3.005819

51.492889 -3.000201

51.513154 -2.995801

51.524196 -3.002047

51.529586 -3.005084

51.530201 -3.006039

51.528935 -3.009088

51.528376 -3.008221

51.523449 -3.005444

51.512955 -2.999507

51.493779 -3.0058

51.48435 -3.010996

51.45321 -3.046211

51.443827 -3.054975

51.435213 -3.06573

51.426259 -3.082028

51.39467 -3.082798

51.384001 -3.075293

Coordinate system WGS84

## Method statement

Are the works within a sensitive area or one of the following activities: boreholes, replacement piles or beach management?

Yes

## Band 1 method statement template

You can upload your method statement here or fill in the questions below.

- File: Works Methodology NEWPORT Draft 17042024 rev2.docx - [Download](#)

Please provide a brief summary of the application including location of the works (coordinates - lat/long, decimal degrees). For activities that cover a large area please provide coordinates of the approximate extent of works.

Please see attached method statement.

#### Scope of works

Please provide a full description of all proposed works including: Sequence of works (mobilisation, marine works, site remediation (if required)) Estimated timing of works (duration, working hours, day/night, plus contingency) Plant, machinery or vessel required Estimated quantities (removals, deposits, construction materials)

Please see attached method statement.

#### Access and working areas

Please provide details of access to the site and working areas. This should include: Attached map of the access/egress route and working areas (annotated aerial image and/or OS map) Predicted plant/vehicle movements Storage areas for plant, equipment and materials (if required) Risks to navigation

Please see attached method statement.

#### Environmental mitigation

Please list appropriate mitigation measures to minimise impacts on the marine environment these may include: Pollution prevention and control procedure (guidance available on the NetRegs website) Spill response kits Minimise plant traffic Designated access and egress routes Storage of materials (fuel, chemicals, construction waste) Biosecurity (guidance available at <http://www.snh.gov.uk/docs/A1294630.pdf>)  
Note: To assist you, the following mitigation statements will be used as conditions within the licence. By signing this method statement you will be agreeing to adhere to these restrictions. If you are unable to do this, the application will not qualify as Band 1. All equipment, temporary structures, access tracks, waste and/or debris associated with the works will be removed on completion of the works. Bunding, storage facilities and spill kits will be employed to contain and prevent the release of fuel, oils and chemicals associated with the plant, refuelling and construction equipment into the marine environment. Plant, vehicles and machinery will not be refuelled on the foreshore. Coatings and treatments will be suitable for use in the marine environment and are used in accordance with best environmental practice. All equipment, materials, machinery and PPE used will be in a clean condition prior to their arrival on site, and upon removal from site, to minimise risk of introducing non-native species into the marine environment. In the event of removal of any sensitive species or habitat designated by NRW under Schedule 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, no further removals will occur at that location or within 20m of that location.

Please list your bespoke mitigations here:

Please see attached method statement.

### Additional information

Please list any additional information that may help with the application:  
Consents/permissions required List of plans or drawings attached to method statement  
Emergency procedures Contact details

Please see attached method statement.

## Materials of the project

Description of materials to be deposited seaward of Mean High Water Springs (MHWS)  
(Please tick all that apply)

Other (please provide a description of materials):  
No material will be deposited

Delivery method of materials to site

If sea delivery, details of vessels to be used with a chart of proposed route and transshipment area is required. If delivery is by vehicle, the details about the proposed access route are required. Please indicate if you are providing details in a separate file.

N/A

Will the works involve removals seaward of MHWS?

Yes

Description of materials to be removed seaward of MHWS (Please tick all that apply)

Other

Description of objects/materials to be removed seaward of MHWS, including quantities to be removed.

A variety of seabed samples will be taken across the survey area within Welsh waters of the Severn Estuary.

- Up to 6 grab samples across the entire survey area (English and Welsh waters) with an approximate volume per sample of = 0.010 m<sup>3</sup>, and Total Volume = 0.060m<sup>3</sup>; and
- Up to 4 Vibrocore/Gravity Core samples (English and Welsh waters) (120mm diameter) with an approximate volume per sample of = 0.040m<sup>3</sup>, Total Volume of = 0.160m<sup>3</sup>, to 3m depth.

## Additional information

Please provide the following:

You must include a suitably scaled extract of an Ordnance Survey Map or Admiralty Chart with location of project complete with north arrow and scale

If applicable, any construction plans and sectional drawings showing those proposed works below/seaward of MHWS, which should give details of the materials to be used (for beach replenishment the quantity, particle size and source of material to be deposited and deposit location is also required)

You must include details of correspondence with MCA, Trinity House and The Crown Estate

You must include any pre application advice/correspondence with NRW

Correspondence with RCAHMMW (B1 removals only)

Please upload these below

- File: RCAHM Correspondance.pdf - [Download](#)
- File: GGAT correspondence.docx - [Download](#)
- File: MCA Correspondence.docx - [Download](#)
- File: Trinity House Correspondence.docx - [Download](#)
- File: NRW and Crown Estate Correspondence.docx - [Download](#)
- File: P14505 - Newport connect marine surveys HRA screening v1.0.pdf - [Download](#)
- File: P14505 - Survey area for Newport Connect S.I. surveys.png - [Download](#)

**Please list below all supporting documents that have been submitted with this application.**

Map showing the survey area for the Newport Connect (.png)  
Correspondence with Trinity house, MCA, RCAHMMW, the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust, NRW and the Crown Estate.  
Method statement  
HRA Screening Document

## Statutory powers

Does the applicant have statutory powers to consent any aspect of the project? e.g. coast protection authority, dredging powers, statutory undertakers

No

## Public register

Is there any information contained within or provided in support of this application that you consider should NOT be included on the Public Register on the grounds that its disclosure:

	Yes	No
<b>Would be contrary to the interest of National Security?</b>		X
<b>Would prejudice to an unreasonable degree you, or some other person's commercial interest or those of a third party?</b>		X

## Application fee

Please provide the method of payment

BACS

**Reference number (not BACS remittance no.)**

PRCAPPAPPEML104

## Declaration

I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief that the information given in this application form and supporting documentation is true.

**WARNING:** It is an offence under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, under which this application is made, to fail to disclose information or to provide false or misleading information. This could invalidate any licence granted.

<b>Name</b>	Kevin Whyte
<b>Date</b>	24/05/2024
<b>Position in company</b>	Project Engineer

If you would like a copy of your completed form, please add your preferred email address below:

A.Villanueva-Brackley@apemltd.co.uk