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Wales**

Marine Licensing Variation Decision

The Marine and Coastal Access Act (2009)

**Applicant: Newport City Council
Variation application reference no: CML2127v2**

Newport

**Refurbishment of the Newport Transporter Bridge
Spanning the River Usk**

18 September 2024

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OUR DECISION

Based on all the information available, and having regard to all relevant considerations NRW has decided grant the variation to the Existing Marine Licence (see Annex 2) sought by the Variation Application.

This decision document:

- explains how the Variation Application has been determined, having regard to the relevant legal framework outlined in section 4;
- explains how relevant considerations have been taken into account and how each of the legal requirements have been considered in determining the Variation Application;
- provides a record of the decision-making process; and
- sets out the reasons for any conditions imposed in connection with any marine licence granted pursuant to the Variation Application.

1 APPLICATION DETAILS

1.1 The Variation Application

Applicant name and address	The Applicant is the organisation set out below: Organisation name: Newport City Council Address: Civic Centre, Godfrey Road, Newport, NP20 4UR
Variation Application reference number	CML2127v2
Existing Marine Licence reference number	CML2127v1
Date Variation Application was duly made	07 August 2024
Description of variation	Marine Licence extension from 31 December 2024 to 31 March 2026 .
Proposal[s] covered by the Variation Application	Refurbishment of the Newport Transporter Bridge spanning the River Usk comprising: maintenance, repairs, restoration and enhancement of the bridge infrastructure using temporary access platforms and scaffolding. (the Project)
Licensable marine activities	• Repair of the eastern side approach viaduct. • Replacement of corroded oblique stiffening cables on the main boom and other ancillary cables. • Repair of the traveller structural framework. • Reinstatement of a number of original decorative features. • Repairs to the gondola structural framework • Mechanical repairs to the drive machinery. • Investigation of possible movement in the Westside abutment. • Abutment repair works to the stonework. • Repairs to pylon saddles. • Replacement of boom anchor cables. • Repairs to anchorage house including improved drainage. • Removal and reapplication of paint to main boom. • Local repair to pylon paint work.

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	• Reinstatement of an improved lighting system (the Proposed Activities)
Marine Plan area	Welsh inshore region and Welsh offshore region
Variation Application documents:	• CML2127v2 – Application Form – 07 August 2024

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2 VARIATION APPLICATION PROCEDURE

2.1 The Variation Application

The Variation Application was accepted by Natural Resources Wales (**NRW**) considered duly made on **07 August 2024**. This means we considered it was in the correct form and contained sufficient information for us to begin our determination, but not that it necessarily contained all the information we needed to complete that determination, and the documents considered may therefore include documents provided after the Variation Application was first made.

2.2 Documents considered

In reaching its decision, NRW has considered the documents listed in section 1 of this decision document along with such other information provided by the Applicant or received during any consultation, that NRW considered relevant.

2.3 Commercial Confidentiality

The Applicant made no claim that any information forming part of the Variation Application was subject to commercial confidentiality and we have not received any information in relation to the Variation Application that appears to be commercially confidential.

2.4 Publicity and advertising

Due to the minor change to the licence which extends the ongoing activity for a relatively short period of time, no notice was given to Local Authorities and no Public Notice was advertised for this Marine Licence variation.

2.5 Environmental impact Assessment

Council Directive 2011/92/EU (as amended) on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment aims to protect the environment and the quality of life by ensuring that projects which are likely to have significant environmental effects by virtue of their nature, size or location are subject to an environmental impact assessment (EIA) before permission is granted.

The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007 ("the Regulations") transpose the EIA Directive in Wales and England for marine licence applications.

Having considered the Variation Application NRW has determined that it does not constitute a development requiring EIA under the Regulations.

3 CONSULTATION

3.1 Consultees

Due to the minor nature of the change to the licence, and that no additional impacts are expected above that which were considered during the determination of **CML2127**, NRW did not consider it appropriate to reconsult on this occasion.

4 Conclusions and Recommendations

Based on all the information available, and having regard to all relevant considerations including consultation responses, NRW's decision is to grant the variation to the Existing Marine Licence sought by the Variation Application. We have reached this decision having had regard to the relevant legal framework outlined in section 4 and have also explained in section 4 how each of the legal requirements have been considered. NRW has determined that a Marine Licence for the Proposed Activities should be granted.

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Based on all the information available, NRW's decision is to grant the variation to the Existing Marine Licence sought by the Variation Application. **CML2127v2** is an routine change to extend the license's end date and as such we refer to section 4 of the decision document for **CML2127** and **CML2127v1**. regarding the relevant legal framework and how each of the legal requirements have been considered. The decision document can be found here [Public register - Customer Portal \(naturalresources.wales\)](#) by searching for **CML2127**.

AUTHORISATION

Report by: Rhiannon Smith Position: Marine Licencing Officer	Date: 30 August 2024	Signed: 
Authorised by: Emmer Litt Position: Marine Licensing Team Leader	Date: 18 September 2024	Signed: 

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ANNEX 1

Licence end date has been changed in Section 1.3 of the Marine Licence from **31 December 2024** as detailed in **CML2127v1** to **31 March 2026** in **CML2127v2**.