

From: Williams, Sion M. <Sion.M.Williams@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>
Sent: 08 April 2025 09:37
To: Jon Stoddard
Subject: RE: Scoping - A494 River Dee Bridge Replacement Scheme (Scoping) - NRW
Response NRW:01115243 - Fisheries

Good morning Jon,

Thank you for your email and the further information.

We have reviewed the documents and have the following comments:

Options for existing road bridge, page 1, Description of the scheme. The first paragraph states that the existing bridge is expected to be demolished. On page 2, bullet point 8 it is suggested that demolition of the existing bridge is subject to confirmation and review, and finally on page 6 the work required for demolition is outlined. We advise that the proposed demolition of the existing road bridge is included in the Environmental Statement (ES) under the 'Rochdale' envelope principle to ensure a realistic worst-case scenario is considered. Furthermore, we advise that for the full ES further details and assessment of in-river works, demolition and removal of the existing river piles is required, and that timing restrictions to protect migratory fish may be necessary for works such as use of breakers and diamond saw wires (as specified on p.6).

Dredging. Page 2 mentions potential dredging at the Airbus Load Out Facility (ALOF) and subsequently page 3 (under point 2) describes desilting the riverbed around the new piles and the proposed location for the jack up barge. We note the reference to the Marine License granted in 2016 (ML 1617), for disposal locally of dredged material, but advise that further details and assessment of the duration of dredging, timing of works and volumes to be removed/re-located are provided in the full ES.

Installation of new bridge piers. Page 3 describes the installation of the new foundation piles as being assumed to be constructed by using rotary bored piles followed by oscillation/vibration piling (as per point 4, page 4) . We welcome this and advise that as no percussion piling will be used, the proposed timing restrictions detailed under 'Mitigation' on page 7 to reduce disturbance to migratory fish are acceptable. However, should percussive piling be deemed necessary this will require further consultation with NRW and assessment in the ES, including underwater noise modelling.

Temporary sheet piling, Page 4, point 13 (and diagram page 3). We note the need to install temporary sheet piles on the eastern riverbank, however, it is not clear whether these will be installed within the 'wet' (at high water) river channel, if the site is outside the river, or whether installation will only occur at low tide. We advise if installed in the river channel using non-percussive piling methods, the timing restrictions mentioned above should be applied. If percussive piling is needed then consultation with NRW would be required, alongside a full assessment in the ES, potentially including underwater noise modelling.

I hope the above is useful, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Kind regards,

Siôn M. Williams

From: Jon Stoddard <j.stoddard@rmlconsult.com>

Sent: 20 March 2025 15:45

To: Williams, Sion M. <Sion.M.Williams@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Scoping - A494 River Dee Bridge Replacement Scheme (Scoping) - NRW Response
NRW:01115243 - Fisheries

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

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Hi Sion,

Further to your e-mail below, we have drafted a description of the works that sets out the construction of the 'in river' elements of the Scheme, mainly the piling and construction of the river piers and dredging of the river at both the bridge and ALOF site.

We also attach drawings of the Site Location and General Arrangement for your information.

We would be grateful if you could circulate the attached to your fisheries advisor for their comments and feedback. Should you need any further information please do not hesitate to get in touch. We appreciate that as an organisation you are very busy attending to other projects but would appreciate an early response on this if at all possible as we are entering into the procurement process to appoint a contractor and any working constraints will need to be included in the works information.

We look forward to hearing back from you shortly.

Regards

Jon

Jon Stoddard

Principal Landscape Architect and Environmental Coordinator

Richards, Moorehead & Laing Ltd

e j.stoddard@rmlconsult.com

t 01824 704366 **ext.** 115

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From: Williams, Sion M. <Sion.M.Williams@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>

Sent: 18 March 2025 10:06

To: Jon Stoddard <j.stoddard@rmlconsult.com>

Subject: RE: Scoping - A494 River Dee Bridge Replacement Scheme (Scoping) - NRW Response NRW:01115243 - Fisheries

Hi Jon,

Thanks for your email below.

As mentioned in your email (attached) do you have further detailed information on the construction methodology that I can send to our fisheries advisor? It may negate the need for a meeting.

Diolch,

Siôn M. Williams

Cynghorydd - Cynllunio Datblygu / Advisor - Development Planning

Gwasanaeth Cynghori Cynllunio Datblygu / Development Planning Advisory Service

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales

From: Jon Stoddard <j.stoddard@rmlconsult.com>

Sent: 14 March 2025 15:41

To: Williams, Sion M. <Sion.M.Williams@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>; North Planning <NorthPlanning@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>

Subject: FW: Scoping - A494 River Dee Bridge Replacement Scheme (Scoping) - NRW Response NRW:01115243 - Fisheries

Importance: High

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

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Good afternoon Sion,

Further to our request for a meeting below, please could we organise a meeting with NRW to discuss the various aspects of 'in river' working. We are at a critical point of undertaking the EIA at the moment and we really need to understand NRW's position on this in order to finalise the assessment work. As mentioned previously, any restrictions on 'in river' working would potentially have serious ramifications on programme and costs.

Please could we organise a meeting as a matter of urgency now, we would prefer a face-to-face meeting if at all possible or alternatively a Teams meeting if this is not feasible.

We look forward to hearing back from you shortly.

Regards

Jon

Jon Stoddard

Principal Landscape Architect and Environmental Coordinator
Richards, Moorehead & Laing Ltd

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m 07701 362290



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From: Jon Stoddard

Sent: 10 February 2025 13:56

To: Mid Planning <MidPlanning@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>; Sion.M.Williams
<sion.m.williams@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Scoping - A494 River Dee Bridge Replacement Scheme (Scoping) - NRW Response NRW:01115243 - Fisheries

Good afternoon Mid Planning/Siôn,

Thank you for your response to the Scoping Report.

We are in the process of reviewing the various topics covered in your response. We will be responding to each of the points progressively on a subject-by-subject basis.

We have particular concerns over some issues that you have raised including those relating to fisheries and restrictive practices for some of the 'in river' construction operations. In previous consultations with NRW (Marine Licensing 06/05/2022) we had agreed that the 'in river' working using a jack up barge or pontoons could be done at any time of the year subject to the following restrictions:

- Working hours restricted to between 8am and 5 pm
- No piling work to take place in the 3 hours leading up to high tide at Chester weir

If the above are not achievable, then we would be restricted to no in river working between early March and November, which is obviously a major constraint on construction operations that could potentially lead to significant risk of delays to the construction programme and that should be avoided.

We are very concerned about the latest response and potential restrictions and seek to clarify the position of NRW on this as a matter of some urgency.

Please advise on how we can take this forward, a Teams call on this matter would be appreciated.

Many thanks

Regards

Jon

Jon Stoddard

Principal Landscape Architect and Environmental Coordinator
Richards, Moorehead & Laing Ltd

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From: Mid Planning <MidPlanning@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>

Sent: 31 January 2025 11:35

To: Jon Stoddard <j.stoddard@rmlconsult.com>

Subject: Scoping - A494 River Dee Bridge Replacement Scheme (Scoping) - NRW Response NRW:01115243

Annwyl Jon,

Amgaeaf ein hymateb i'r cais uchod, ac os oes gennych unrhyw ymholiadau, mae croeso i chi gysylltu â mi.

Cofion Cynnes

Dear Jon,

Please find attached our response to the above application, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,

Sion Williams
Tîm Cynllunio Datblygu / Development Planning Team
Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales

www.cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk / www.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

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Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg, heb i hynny arwain at oedi / Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.