

Our ref: CML2563

Date: 18 March 2026

Dear Mr Bailey,

MARINE AND COASTAL ACCESS ACT 2009: PART 4 – MARINE LICENSING

APPLICATION FOR A MARINE LICENCE FOR WORKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE A494 RIVER DEE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT SCHEME

APPLICATION NUMBER: CML2563

I am writing to advise you that the Marine Licensing Team, on behalf of the Welsh Ministers, as Licensing Authority, is in the process of determining your application, which was considered duly made on the 15 December 2025 for a Marine Licence under Part 4 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.

Following review of representation received, in accordance with Part 4, Chapter 1, Regulation 67 (4) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, NRW require further information to continue with the determination of this application.

Consultation on the marine licence application and supporting documents commenced on the 29 January 2026 and ran for a period of 28 days. Representation were made by the following organisations;

- Crown Estate
- Ministry of Defence
- Maritime and Coastguard Agency
- Royal Yachting Association
- Port of Mostyn
- Welsh Government Marine Enforcement and Fisheries Division
- Welsh Archaeological Trust
- Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales
- Cadw
- NATS
- Public Health Wales
- North West IFCA
- NRW Advisory (NRW A)

All responses received can be found on the [Public Register](#) through searching the application reference number. No public representation were received.

A number of concerns have been raised by NRW A which need to be addressed. We recommend that you review the response from NRW A and look to respond accordingly to the points raised. We would advise that a clear signposting document or matrix showing how NRW Advisory comment have been considered showing how requested information/clarification has been provided.

We would draw your attention to a number of concerns raised where further information is considered necessary before the marine licence process can progress further.

It is strongly recommended that further engagement is sought with relevant consultees as you look to address comments made.

We are also aware from NRW A representation dated 2 March 2026 reference is made to additional information which had been submitted to Welsh Government to address concerns as part of the Highway Order determination process. Please ensure all documents applicable to the marine licence determination are also submitted as part of the further information submission.

Further Information Required

1. Development Flood Risk

NRW A note they were unable to provide detailed comment on flood risk until further information is submitted regarding the River Dee Tidal Model and the submitted Flood Consequence Assessment. We are aware that you have engaged with NRW A surrounding this matter, and request that the additional information is provided to address NRW concerns.

2. Remediation Activity

NRW A have raised concern surrounding the lack of detail surrounding potential remediation activity, noting lack of information and assessment (both in relation to WFD and HRA).

Please confirm if any remediation activities are proposed under the marine licence application, if so please signpost where detail of the remediation action is provided and assessed.

3. Water Quality

NRW A do not agree with the conclusion of the WFD assessment, specifically they do not agree that potential to prevent either the relevant waterbody can be ruled out in respect of water quality. Further evidence is required to ensure that potential for contaminated sediment does not have an impact on water quality.

NRW A also consider that the potential for chemical contaminants to impact upon sensitive habitats have not been appropriately considered. We would advise you to review NRW A representation and engage with NRW A as you look to address this concern.

4. Mitigation Measures

We would request a response to NRW A request for clarification surrounding piling, including confirmation whether all piles and pile casings will be installed using non-percussive piling measures.

A number of timing restrictions have been proposed within the application as mitigation measures. We seek confirmation that the timing restrictions proposed in section 16.7 of the ES includes all piling including the installation of temporary sheet piling.

From NRW A representation it details that discussion has been ongoing surrounding timing restrictions associated with in river works. If there are any changes to mitigation proposed within the ES these must be submitted and made clear, including reasoning for any change.

Please provide this information by **8 April 2026**.

If we do not receive it by the date set out above, then in accordance with Part 4, Chapter 1, Regulation 67 (6) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, the application may be refused. If this happens, we will still be sent an invoice for work conducted by NRW.

If you have any concerns about being able to provide this information on time, please let me know.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me

Yours sincerely

Peter Morrison
Marine Licensing Team
Natural Resources Wales