

FORM WRA: Applicant details and proposal outline

Application type and fee

Please generate a reference number. It should start with "WR" followed by your organisation or company name and today's date in four-digit format (DDMM) without spaces or punctuation.

Example: WRNATURALRESOURCESWALES1101

Please use this use this number throughout this application. This reference number can also be used for your BACS reference if paying electronically.

WRMaelorPoultry1307

For the application types listed, complete this form and/or the relevant additional forms named below. Tick the type of application you are applying for. Please refer to our Find out if you need a licence web-page (opens in new tab) for an explanation for the different licence types. If your proposal involves multiple licence types, tick all that apply.

See our Charges for abstraction and impoundment applications (opens in new tab) web page for details of application fees and how to pay.

Technical variation of an abstraction licence. Also complete form WRD.

Please provide existing licence serial number, if applicable

WA/067/0007/0015/V002

Please indicate how you wish to pay your application fee. If paying by BACS, please quote the reference number created in question 1 when setting up the bank transfer.

If paying by cheque, please ensure you add the six digit cheque number below.

BACS

Please add your BACS reference below

Maelor Poultry

Applicant details

Applicant type

Limited company

Applicant details

Full Name Maelor Foods Ltd
Company, Charity or Trading Name Maelor Foods Ltd
Company or Charity Registration Number 09156025

Applicant Registered Address

Line 1 Salisbury House
Line 2 Vulcan Road
Line 3 Bilston
Line 4 West Midlands
Postcode WV14 7HT

Applicant Contact details

Office Telephone Number 01677470191
Mobile Telephone Number 07939965244
Email Address chris@ghsce.co.uk

Please indicate who we should contact regarding operation of your site, this should be the person responsible for the day to day running of the operation.

	Applicant	Agent
Site operations contact	X	

Details of agent or individual authorised to act as application contact

Use applicant contact details

No

Application details

Full Name Christopher Geoffrey SAUL
Company, Charity or Trading Name G.H.Saul Consulting Engineers
Position in Company Consulting Engineer

Applicant Registered Address

Line 1 Woodside House
Line 2 East Tanfield
Line 3 Ripon
Line 4 North Yorkshire
Postcode hg4 5ln

Applicant Contact details

Office Telephone Number 01677470191
Mobile Telephone Number 07939965244
Email Address chris@ghsce.co.uk

For applications for abstraction licences who should we contact for invoices?

Not necessary for temporary or transfer licences.

Agent

Details of individual authorised to act as abstraction records (returns) contact

Specify who we should contact regarding abstraction records (returns):

New returns contact

For new returns contacts, please provide details

Name and address:

Name Steve Jones
Line 1 Maelor Foods
Line 2 Pickhill Lane
Line 3 Cross Lanes, Wrexham
Postcode LL13 0UE

Telephone number and email address

Office telephone number 01978 802 337
Mobile telephone number -
Email info@maelorfoods.co.uk

Entitlement to apply (not required for impoundment licence applications)

Does the applicant have a legal right of access to the point of abstraction?

Owner

Site map showing abstraction points

- File: Maelor BH Map 2026.pdf - [Download](#)

For abstraction licence applications where you are the landowner, provide a map with the land boundary and all abstraction and discharge point(s) marked.

Please tick here to show that you have done this.

Pre-application number

Have you undertaken a pre-application enquiry or had any previous discussions with us?

Yes

Provide reference number or staff member's name

Kristina Jenkins

Remediation work

Is this proposal as a result of a Restoring Sustainable Abstraction programme or other work requested by us?

No

Source of supply

State where you intend to abstract from

Groundwater. e.g. Borehole, mine, unlined excavation

Give Groundwater Investigation Consent number if applicable

PAN-023069

Groundwater impact assessment report

- File: Maelor Foods HIA (2026) version 3.pdf - [Download](#)
- File: Maelor 2025 Recovery Data v3.xlsx - [Download](#)
- File: Maelor 2025 Pretest Data v2.xlsx - [Download](#)
- File: Maelor 2025 Pumping Phase Data v2.xlsx - [Download](#)

Provide a 12 digit National Grid Reference for the proposed or existing abstraction or impoundment point (e.g. ST 19057 76826)

SJ 38612 46861

Source of supply (name of watercourse or aquifer)

Kinnerton Sandstone

Site name / reference
(e.g. Tŷ Mawr Farm)

Cross Lanes

Proposal summary

Please provide an outline of your proposal, including any sketches.

As a guide, you should include: a description of the activities which (will) take place at your site, the means of abstraction/impoundment proposed, if the proposal is related to another licence or permit (i.e. an Environmental Permit to Discharge Water) and details of any survey work undertaken. For changes to existing licences, summarise the changes proposed. Sketches or photographs that will aid our understanding of your proposal can be uploaded below.

Following an Appeal Maelor Foods Ltd have been granted Planning Permission to increase production at their Cross Lanes Site to 2 million chickens/week. As a consequence, the water demand will increase to 2,700 m³/day, 976Ml/year. The present plant has a net water consumption of 9.1 ltr/bird. The future water demand will be 18,200 m³/week, or 2,700 m³/day, based on pumping 7 days/week. The present water supply is from a borehole (No.1 Production Borehole) drilled into the Triassic Sandstones, and which produces 1350 m³/day. Abstraction is authorised by Abstraction Licence No. WA/067/0007/015/v002. This licence permits abstraction of 1350 m³/day, 400Ml/year.

To meet the increased demand a second borehole(No.2 Production Borehole), was drilled into the Triassic Sandstone, in 2025. It is located 147 m to the North West of the No.1 Production Borehole. The new borehole is 175 m deep, and 250mm dia. It is lined with steel casing to 75 m. The Triassic sandstone was left open.

It was thought that the No.1 borehole was drilled into the Kinnerton Sandstone, which is the bottom unit of the Triassic Sandstones, however the strata penetrated in the No.2 borehole, and new geological information provided by seismic surveys, carried out during oil and gas exploration, suggest both boreholes are drilled into the Chester Pebble Beds, which is the sandstone unit above the Kinnerton Sandstone. This is of no material consequence, as both sandstone units are important aquifers, and are in hydraulic continuity.

On completion of drilling the water levels in both production boreholes and three monitoring boreholes were measured for >28 days. During this period the No.1 Borehole was being used to full capacity of 1350 m³/day. The monitoring demonstrated the aquifer was more than capable of supporting the existing abstraction, and there was potential for supporting increased abstraction.

A 14 day pumping test of the No.2 borehole was then carried out, at a pumping rate of 1349 m³/day. During this test No.1 Borehole continued pumping at maximum capacity. During this test equilibrium conditions were established after a maximum of 1.5 days, indicating that the additional abstraction was sustainable. At the end of the 14 days, the pump was switched off. Water levels were monitored and all borehole levels

No.2 Borehole recovered in under 1.5 days, again indicating that the additional abstraction is sustainable.

The possible impact of the additional abstraction on surface water features and other water supply boreholes, was examined. It was concluded that all surface water features were protected by the thick clay layers overlying the sandstone, and other known water supply boreholes were outside the area influenced by the additional abstraction.

It was concluded that abstraction of 2,700 m³/day. 936,000 m³/year is sustainable and will have no adverse impact on the aquifer, water features, or other abstractors. There is a beneficial effect to the River Dee, as 95% of all water abstracted is returned to it, after treatment.

Summary of proposal

- File: Maelor Photos - 2025 Drilling.pdf - [Download](#)

Declaration

By signing below, you are declaring that, to the best of your knowledge; the information given in this form, on any map and in any supporting or additional information; is true.

Signed M
Print name Mulkh Mehta
Position Director, Maelor Foods Ltd

Date

* 20/07/2026

Submit your application

Enter your email address to get a copy of your application

chris@ghsce.co.uk