



Glandŵr
Cymru

The Canal & River Trust in Wales

Canal & River Trust as Statutory Consultee: Duty to Respond and Report for Wales

Purpose of the Report

The Canal & River Trust is a statutory consultee as set out in the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012 ('the order'). As a statutory consultee we are required to compile a report for the Welsh Government on our performance in responding to consultations. This is our annual report for the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017

This is the report for Glandŵr Cymru, the Canal & River Trust in Wales.

Statutory Consultee Status for Planning Applications

The Canal & River Trust ("Glandŵr Cymru") is a Statutory Consultee on planning applications involving:

Development likely to affect –

- *any inland waterway (whether natural or artificial) or reservoir owned or managed by the Canal & River Trust; or*
- *any canal feeder channel, watercourse, let off or culvert,*

which is within an area which has been notified for the purposes of this provision to the local planning authority by the Canal & River Trust.

The requirement is set out in the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012 ('the order') as amended.

In preparing a substantive response, Glandŵr Cymru seeks advice from a range of internal specialists including, bridge, geotechnical and structural engineers, hydrologists, ecologists, heritage advisors etc.

The area notified for consultation with Glandŵr Cymru covers 8 local authority boundaries in Wales.

Key Points in the Reporting Year

In July 2016 Glandŵr Cymru, launched a bespoke database which holds all the information and documentation for each consultation received by Glandŵr Cymru. This has had a positive effect on the processing of consultations and has contributed to our overall response rate.

2016/17 saw a reasonably settled period in staffing levels within the team. This has also contributed to our response rate.

Overall number of consultations received

Glandŵr Cymru received a total of 54 registered planning application and relevant application consultations in Wales to which a response was required within the period 01 April 2016 to 31 March 2017. This figure includes 7 consultations to which Glandŵr Cymru had no statutory duty to respond but where we considered it appropriate to do so we have responded, in order to protect our assets and/or where the consultation falls within our notified areas for consultation. This figure includes applications for Listed Building Consent, EIA Scoping consultations etc. For the purposes of the remainder of this report, these consultations have been excluded.

Statutory Pre-application and Planning Applications

Glandŵr Cymru received a total of 40 registered planning application consultations in Wales and no statutory pre-applications to which there was a duty to respond within the period 01 April 2016 and 31 March 2017. The figures reported below relate to these consultations:

Consultation Type	Number of consultations received requiring a response in 2016/17
Statutory pre-applications	0
Registered Planning Application Consultations received from LPAs	40
Planning Application Consultations received from others	0
TOTAL	40

The following analysis is based on these figures.

Glandŵr Cymru is required to make a substantive response within 21 days or within an extended period which has been agreed between the parties.

The table below sets out our compliance in this regard:

	No. of Registered Planning Application Consultations	Statutory Pre-application	Total No. of Consultations
No. of consultations in compliance with statutory deadlines	35	0	35
No. of consultations in Compliance with statutory deadlines & agreed extensions	4	0	4
No. of application consultations in non-compliance	1	0	1
TOTAL	40	0	40

In summary, the overall response rate for statutory pre-application and planning application consultations within 21 days and/or an agreed extension period is **97.5%**.

Reason for Non Compliance with 21 day deadline or agreed extension for consultations

A substantive response to 1 consultation was not provided by Glandŵr Cymru within 21 days of receipt and/or within an agreed extension period. However, a substantive response was provided within 5 days of the deadline.

The reasons for non-compliance on this consultation was that an extension of time was requested but not agreed by the Local Planning Authority.

Relevant Applications

Glandŵr Cymru is required to make a substantive response within 21 days or within an extended period which has been agreed between the parties.

The table below sets out our compliance in this regard:

	Number of relevant application consultations
No. of consultations in compliance with statutory deadlines	7
No. of consultations in compliance with statutory deadlines and agreed extensions	0
No. of application consultations in non-compliance.	0
TOTAL	7

In summary, the overall response rate for relevant applications within 21 days and/or an agreed extension period is **100%**.

Reflection on Performance as a Statutory Consultee

2016/17 is the first year that there has been a requirement to report on our response to consultations in Wales. With our new planning database and a settled period of staffing the team have produced a very positive overall combined response rate of **98%** within 21 days and /or an agreed extension for planning applications and relevant applications.

We are committed to working with the Welsh Government and others to explore new innovative ways of working to improve the performance of statutory consultees and local planning authorities in achieving our shared objective of supporting the delivery of sustainable growth.

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