



**Plot E6, Swansea  
Waterfront**

**Ecological Baseline  
Report**

Prepared by:  
**The Environmental Dimension  
Partnership Ltd**

On behalf of:  
**Pobl Group**

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(edp8862\_d001a 25 September 2024 JFr/EWi)

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(edp8862\_d002a 25 September 2024 JFr/EWi)

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## Executive Summary

- S1 This Ecological Baseline Report has been prepared by The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd (EDP) on behalf of Pobl Group (hereafter referred to as 'the Applicant') in relation to proposed development of land at Plot E6, Swansea Waterfront (hereafter referred to as 'the Site'). Specifically, proposed development comprises engineering works to raise ground levels across the Site to 7.75m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) and in so doing facilitate future residential development.
- S2 Baseline data pertaining to the Site was collected during 2024. The investigations undertaken comprise a desk study and Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey, including a search of the Site for evidence of badger (*Meles meles*).
- S3 No part of the Site is covered by any statutory nor non-statutory designations. However, there are several such designations within the potential zone of influence of the Site, the most pertinent of which include Crymyn Bog Ramsar Site, Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Neath Port Talbot Watercourse Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC), Kilvey Hill SINC, Tawe Corridor SINC and Swansea Bay SINC.
- S4 With respect to habitats, the Site is characterised by a coarse gravel substrate, the southern extents of which are largely bare, with only scattered patches of vegetation. The northern extent of the Site supports vegetation more characteristic of an ephemeral/short perennial community which is overall considered to be of no more than Site level importance given its poor structural diversity, with any one area largely dominated by a single species. Such habitat is considered of limited importance to ground nesting birds, a foraging/commuting bat assemblage and common reptile and amphibian population given the limited availability of suitable habitat for foraging and refuge, whilst the Site is also devoid of semi-natural boundary features that would facilitate dispersal of such species between the Site and the wider landscape. The Site is, however, likely to be of some value as a foraging/nesting resource for an invertebrate assemblage, particularly given the availability of more abundant and floristically diverse habitats adjacent to the Site and within the wider landscape, such that the presence of notable species cannot be entirely ruled out. Nevertheless, given that habitats supported by the Site are largely species-poor and lacking in heterogeneity, the presence of significant invertebrate populations is unlikely such that an invertebrate assemblage is not considered of importance beyond a Site level context.

## Section 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Ecological Baseline Report has been prepared by The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd (EDP) on behalf of Pobl Group (hereafter referred to as 'the Applicant') in relation to proposed development of land at Plot E6, Swansea Waterfront (hereafter referred to as 'the Site').
- 1.2 This report has been prepared with reference to the following key guidance:
- Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) *Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal*<sup>1</sup>;
  - CIEEM *Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment*<sup>2</sup>; and
  - British Standard: Biodiversity - *Code of Practice for Planning and Development*<sup>3</sup>.
- 1.3 EDP is an independent environmental planning consultancy with offices in Cirencester, Cardiff and Cheltenham. The practice provides advice to private and public sector clients throughout the UK in the fields of landscape, ecology, archaeology, cultural heritage, arboriculture, rights of way and masterplanning. Details of the practice can be obtained at our website ([www.edp-uk.co.uk](http://www.edp-uk.co.uk)).

### SITE CONTEXT

- 1.4 The Site is centred approximately at Ordnance Survey Grid Reference (OSGR) SS 67449 92923. The Local Planning Authority (LPA) is Swansea Council (SC). The Site measures 0.57 hectares (ha) and comprises post-industrial brownfield land which has been historically cleared of vegetation and re-laid with a gravel substrate. Semi-natural vegetation is, however, re-establishing across the Site, comprising scattered communities of short perennial/ephemeral vegetation, predominantly in the north.
- 1.5 The boundaries of the Site are delineated by single carriageway roads including Langdon Road to the north and an unnamed road to the east. Roads to the south and west were previously constructed circa 2020 as part of the wider re-development of Swansea Waterfront but are currently unused except for maintenance.
- 1.6 The Prince of Wales Dock lies to the south-west with residential housing to the north and commercial units to the east. Land to the south comprises additional areas of post-industrial brownfield associated with Plots E7 and E8 of the wider re-development of Swansea Waterfront. Currently colonised by a mix of habitats including bare ground, small scrub communities and

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<sup>1</sup> CIEEM (2017). *Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, 2nd edition*. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.

<sup>2</sup> CIEEM (2018). *Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine version 1.2*. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.

<sup>3</sup> BSI (2013) *Biodiversity - Code of Practice for Planning and Development*. BS 42020:2013. British Standards Institute.

short flower-rich grassland, this land is now consented for residential development. The location and extents of the Site are illustrated at **Plans EDP 1-3**.

## **DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS**

- 1.7 In brief, the proposed development comprises engineering works to raise ground levels across the Site to 7.75mAOD and in so doing facilitate future residential development..
- 1.8 Of pertinence to the proposals, outline planning consent for “*mixed use development comprising employment (Use Class B1, B2) residential (C3), retail (A1), commercial leisure (D2), food and drink (A3), hotel (C1), and educational (D1/C3) uses, car parking, associated infrastructure (including new highway access and pedestrian overbridge), hard and soft landscaping*” of post-industrial land south of Fabian Way and east of the River Tawe in Swansea, was initially granted by SC in 2003 (planning reference: 2002/1000). This was followed by several Section 73 applications to vary the outline permission, most recently in 2015 (planning reference: 2015/1584). The wider outline consented site was subdivided into several plots for which a number of Reserved Matters (RM) applications have been submitted and subsequently approved by SC.
- 1.9 The ecological sensitivities of the Site have influenced the final layout through an iterative design process. Thus, the masterplan incorporates a degree of ‘inherent’ mitigation to avoid or reduce the severity of potential ecological impacts.

## **SCOPE OF THE ASSESSMENT**

- 1.10 This Ecological Baseline Report describes the current ecological interest within and around the Site, which has been identified through standard desk- and field-based investigations.
- 1.11 The remainder of this report is structured as follows:
- **Section 2** summarises the methodology employed in determining the baseline ecological conditions within and around the Site (with further details provided within appendices and on plans where appropriate);
  - **Section 3** summarises the baseline ecological conditions (with further details also provided within appendices and on plans where appropriate) and identifies and evaluates any Important Ecological Features (IEFs); and
  - **Section 4** summarises the IEFs that are relevant to an appraisal (non-EcIA) of development proposals.

## Section 2 Baseline Methodology

2.1 This section of the Ecological Baseline Report summarises the methodologies employed in determining the baseline ecological conditions within and around the Site. This has been undertaken by appropriately qualified ecologists using relevant best practice methodologies wherever possible. Reasons for any departure from best practice methodology are given and normally relate to the timing of EDP's commission and/or the availability of access to parts of the Site or wider study area. Full details of the techniques and process adopted are, where appropriate, provided within appendices and on plans to the rear of this report.

### DESK STUDY

2.2 The desk study is an important element of undertaking an initial ecological appraisal of a site proposed for development, which entails the initial collation and review of contextual information, such as designated sites, together with known records of important habitats or species.

2.3 The desk study involved collating biodiversity information from the following sources:

- South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre (Aderyn/SEWBRc); and
- Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) website<sup>4</sup>.

2.4 The desk study was undertaken during July 2024 and involved obtaining the following information:

- International statutory designations (10km radius around the Site);
- National statutory designations and non-statutory local sites (2km radius);
- Annex II bat species<sup>5</sup> records (6km radius); and
- All other protected, priority and notable species records (2km radius).

2.5 These search areas are considered sufficient to cover the potential zones of influence<sup>6</sup> of the proposed development in relation to designated sites, habitats and species.

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<sup>4</sup> [www.magic.gov.uk](http://www.magic.gov.uk)

<sup>5</sup> Bat species listed in Annex II of the EC Habitats Directive, namely Greater horseshoe, Lesser horseshoe, Barbastelle and Bechstein's bats.

<sup>6</sup> Zone of Influence - the areas and resources that may be affected by the proposed development.

2.6 The adopted Swansea Local Development Plan<sup>7</sup> and Biodiversity and Development Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)<sup>8</sup> were also reviewed as part of the desk study to understand local priorities with regard to protection of ecological features/biodiversity.

### **EXTENDED PHASE 1 HABITAT SURVEY**

2.7 The main habitats within the Site, together with their dominant/characteristic plant species, were identified by undertaking an Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey on 16 July 2024.

2.8 Full details of the habitat survey methodology are provided within **Appendix EDP 1**.

### **DETAILED (PHASE 2) SURVEYS**

2.9 The scope of Phase 2 surveys undertaken within the Site was defined following/during the initial studies described above.

2.10 The surveys 'scoped in' based upon the findings of the desk study and/or Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey are summarised in turn below, with reference to sources of further detailed information where applicable.

#### **Badger Survey**

2.11 A search of the Site for evidence of badger was undertaken alongside the Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey on 16 July 2024.

2.12 During the survey, any signs of badger activity such as holes, latrines, trails, snuffle holes and hairs on fencing or vegetation were recorded. Where holes of a size and shape consistent with badgers were identified, the following signs of badger activity were searched for to determine whether they were currently in use:

- Fresh spoil outside entrances;
- Bedding material (typically dried grass) outside entrances;
- Holes being cleared of leaf litter/other debris;
- Badger guard hairs; and
- Footprints and fresh tracks leading to/from the holes.

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<sup>7</sup> Swansea Council (2019). Swansea Local Development Plan 2010-2025. Available at: <https://www.swansea.gov.uk/article/9914/Swansea-Local-Development-Plan-2010-2025-LDP> [Accessed on 28 March 2023].

<sup>8</sup> Swansea Council (2021). Biodiversity and Development Supplementary Planning Guidance. Available at: <https://www.swansea.gov.uk/biodiversityspg> [Accessed on 28 March 2023].



### Limitations

- 2.13 Badger surveys can be undertaken at any time of year and are, therefore, not limited by seasonal factors.

### Ecological Surveys Scoped Out

- 2.14 **Table EDP 2.1** summarises other survey types which, whilst occasionally required to inform a planning submission for development sites, are not deemed to be necessary/appropriate in this case.

**Table EDP 2.1:** Ecology Surveys Scoped Out

Survey Type	Reasons for Scoping Out
Botanical survey	The Site is largely dominated by artificial gravel substrate with only scattered patches of predominantly species-poor ephemeral/short perennial communities. No further survey is therefore recommended in this instance.
Breeding/wintering Birds	Given the small extent of the Site and nature of those habitats supported therein, limited to scattered communities of ephemeral/short perennial vegetation, no further breeding or wintering bird surveys are recommended in this instance.
Bats (roosting/foraging/commuting)	Given the relatively small size of the Site and absence of significant wildlife corridors, located within a relatively built-up area of Swansea, the Site is considered to be of low suitability to support commuting/foraging bats such that no further survey is proposed. It is, however, assumed that low numbers of relatively common species will utilise the Site opportunistically.
Roosting bats	There is no suitable habitat for roosting bats within the Site, given the absence of any structures and trees potentially used for roosting.
Dormouse	There is no suitable habitat for dormouse on or immediately adjacent to the Site such that this species is presumed absent.
Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) Water vole ( <i>Arvicola amphibicus</i> )	There is no suitable habitat for otter nor water vole on or immediately adjacent to the Site such that these species are presumed absent.
Great crested newt ( <i>Triturus cristatus</i> )	There is no suitable aquatic nor terrestrial habitat on-site with vegetation cover limited to scattered patches of ephemeral/short perennial vegetation.

Survey Type	Reasons for Scoping Out
Reptiles	The Site is largely dominated by artificial gravel substrate with only scattered patches of predominantly species-poor ephemeral/short perennial communities considered to be of limited/negligible suitability to a reptile population. Existing development is also considered a barrier to the dispersal of populations between the Site and suitable habitat in the wider landscape. No further survey is therefore proposed.
Notable invertebrates	Habitats present on-site, comprising scattered patches of species-poor ephemeral/short perennial vegetation, are considered unlikely to support significant populations of a diverse assemblage of terrestrial invertebrates. As such, no further survey is considered necessary in this instance.

## Section 3 Baseline Results

- 3.1 This section summarises the baseline ecological conditions determined through the course of desk-based and field-based investigations described in **Section 2**. In particular, this section identifies and evaluates those ecological features/receptors that lie within the Site's potential zone of influence, and which are pertinent in the context of the proposed development. Further technical details are, where appropriate, provided within appendices and on plans to the rear of this report.
- 3.2 Where a particular ecological feature/receptor has been confirmed to be present, or presence is inferred based on habitat suitability, its ecological importance is assessed. The level of ecological importance assigned to each ecological feature is based upon established geographical value systems and the uses the following scale: International and European (highest) > National > Regional > County > District > Local > Negligible (lowest).

### DESIGNATED SITES

- 3.3 Information regarding designated sites was obtained during the desk study. Statutory designations (those receiving legal and planning policy protection) and non-statutory designations (those receiving planning policy protection only) are discussed in turn below.

#### Statutory Designations

- 3.4 Statutory designations represent the most significant ecological receptors. Internationally important statutory designations include Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Ramsar sites (including potential SPAs, possible SACs and proposed Ramsars). These designations are protected under the *Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017* (as amended) (the Habitats Regulations).
- 3.5 Nationally important statutory designations include Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and National Nature Reserves (NNRs). NNRs are also SSSIs, both of which are protected under the *Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981, as amended)* (WCA).
- 3.6 The legal protection of SACs, SPAs, Ramsar Sites and SSSIs is also reflected in policies included within Planning Policy Wales 12 (February 2024) (PPW) and within Technical Advice Note 5: *Nature Conservation and Planning* (TAN5), which are a material consideration during the planning application process. Further consideration is afforded to the protection SSSIs within recent updates to Chapter 6 of PPW, published during October 2023, with increased clarity on the position for site management and exemptions for minor development necessary to maintain a 'living' landscape, and contribute to an ecologically coherent and resilient network of protected sites and linkages between these. Other development is considered unacceptable as a matter of principle.

3.7 Local level statutory designations include Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) and are generally considered to be of importance at the County level or lower. LNRs are designated under the *National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949*, however protection of LNRs is given via local planning policies and/or by-laws.

3.8 Statutory designations are also recognised as key natural assets within the Swansea Local Development Plan.<sup>9</sup> Of pertinence, Policy ER6 (*Designated Sites of Ecological Importance*) states:

*“Development will not be permitted that would result in a likely significant adverse effect on the integrity of sites of international or national nature conservation importance, except in the circumstances specified in relevant legislation....Where this cannot be achieved development will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that: i. The need for the development outweighs the need to protect the site for nature conservation purposes; ii. There is no satisfactory alternative location for the development that avoids nature conservation impacts; and iii. Any unacceptable harm is kept to a minimum by effective avoidance measures and mitigation, or where this is not feasible, compensatory measures must be put in place to ensure that there is no overall reduction in the nature conservation value of the area.”*

3.9 No part of the Site is covered by any statutory designations. However, there are four internationally important designations within 10km of the Site and two nationally important designations within 2km of the Site. These sites are summarised in **Table EDP 3.1** and illustrated on **Plan EDP 1**.

**Table EDP 3.1:** Statutory Designations within the Site’s Potential Zone of Influence

Designation	Approx. Distance from Site	Interest Feature(s)
<b>Internationally Important Statutory Designated Sites (within 10km of the Site)</b>		
Crymlyn Bog Ramsar Site and SAC	740m north-east	Largest example of valley floodplain topogenous mire in South Wales, and one of the largest surviving fens in the west of Britain. The site supports a substantial population of the nationally rare slender cotton-grass ( <i>Eriophorum gracile</i> ), 199 vascular plant species including 17 regionally uncommon and one nationally rare and a rich invertebrate fauna including many rare and highly localised species.
Gower Commons SAC	9km west	Designated for its North Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> , European dry heaths and Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils. Also recognised for its populations of southern damselfly ( <i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i> ) and marsh fritillary butterfly ( <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> ).

<sup>9</sup> Swansea Council (2019). Swansea Local Development Plan 2010-2025. Available at: <https://www.swansea.gov.uk/article/9914/Swansea-Local-Development-Plan-2010-2025-LDP> [Accessed on 28 March 2023].

Designation	Approx. Distance from Site	Interest Feature(s)
Gower Ash Woods SAC	9.5km south-west	<i>Tilio-acerion</i> forests of slopes, screes and ravines, with transitions through scrub to sand dunes, freshwater marsh and saltmarsh.
<b>Nationally Important Statutory Designated Sites (within 2km of the Site)</b>		
Crymlyn Bog SSSI	800m north-east	Crymlyn Bog is of special interest for its fen (topogenous mire) communities, wet woodland, associated invertebrate assemblages, a substantial population of the nationally rare slender cotton grass and a population of the nationally scarce hornet robberfly ( <i>Asilus crabroniformis</i> ).
Crymlyn Bog and Pant Y Sais NNR	1.6km north-east	Designated for its mire habitats and diverse bird and plant assemblage.

### Non-statutory Designations

- 3.10 Non-statutory designations are also commonly referred to in planning policies as ‘local sites’, although such designations are typically considered to be of importance at a County level. In Swansea, such designations are termed Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs). Additional sites such as non-designated nature reserves (e.g. Wildlife Trust nature reserves) and Ancient Semi-natural Woodland (ASNW) are considered here when not covered by other designations. The importance of SINCs is recognised in PPW and in the Swansea Local Development Plan, specifically Policy ER6.
- 3.11 No part of the Site is covered by any non-statutory designations. There are, however, five such designations located within 2km of the Site, as summarised in **Table EDP 3.2** and shown on **Plan EDP 2**.

**Table EDP 3.2:** Non-Statutory Designations within 2km of the Site

Designation	Approx. Distance from Site	Interest Feature(s)
NPT Watercourses	300m east	Covers areas of Crymlyn Bog and Pan y Sais NNR, Glan-y-wern Canal (disused) and the Tennant Canal.
Kilvey Hill	630m north	Supports a mosaic of habitat types including woodland, scrub, and acid/neutral/calcareous grassland of importance to a diverse invertebrate assemblage, breeding birds including skylark ( <i>Alauda arvensis</i> ) and notable plant species.
Tennant Canal	930m east	An area of planted/re-planted wet woodland and diverse scrub.

Designation	Approx. Distance from Site	Interest Feature(s)
Tawe Corridor	960m west	SINC comprises a river and associated habitats along its peripheries (forming semi-natural continuous linear vegetation), dominated by wet woodland, but also includes other woodland habitats; diverse and species-rich scrub; lowland meadow; species-rich neutral grassland; acid grassland with anthills; reedbeds; and watercourse with exposure/erosion. Also designated for the following species: Black-headed gull ( <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> ); red kite ( <i>Milvus milvus</i> ); and large-leaved lime ( <i>Tylia platyphyllos</i> ).
Swansea Bay	1km south	Recognised for a diversity of coastal and intertidal habitats including saltmarsh, intertidal mudflats, maritime cliffs and slopes, sandy shores and coastal sand dunes supporting a diverse bird assemblage and several notable plant species.

## HABITATS

3.12 There are several mechanisms by which habitats that lie outside of statutory and non-statutory designations are protected, or by which their importance is recognised at a national level. This includes the following:

- 'Important' hedgerows are protected from removal (out with the planning process) by the *Hedgerows Regulations 1997*;
- Certain habitats are listed Priority Habitats under Section 7 of the *Environment (Wales) Act 2016*, which public authorities in Wales must seek to maintain and enhance (to promote ecosystem resilience) as part of policy or decision-making under Section 6 of the *Environment (Wales) Act 2016*; and in so doing, deliver net benefits to biodiversity in accordance with Chapter 6 of PPW through adoption of a stepwise approach by ensuring that any adverse environmental effects are firstly avoided, then minimized, mitigated, and as a last resort, compensated for. Enhancement must be secured by delivering a biodiversity benefit primarily on a site or immediately adjacent to the site, over and above that required to mitigate or compensate for any negative impact;
- Planning Policy Wales 12 includes a presumption against development which results in significant harm to biodiversity and ecosystem functioning, or results in the loss of irreplaceable habitat<sup>10</sup>. PPW 12 also sets out how planning authorities should fulfil their 'Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty' as required by the *Environment (Wales) Act 2016*. Pertinent to this, Chapter 6 of PPW 12 also afford further consideration to the

<sup>10</sup> Irreplaceable habitats are technically very difficult (or take a very significant time) to restore, recreate or replace once destroyed. Habitats noted as irreplaceable within PPW are ancient woodland, semi-natural woodland, and ancient, veteran and heritage trees.

protection of trees, hedgerows, groups of trees and areas of woodland where they have ecological value, contribute to the character or amenity of a particular locality, or perform a beneficial green infrastructure function;

- Chapter 6 of PPW 12 places further emphasis on adopting a proactive approach to integration of green infrastructure within development plans/proposals, and in so doing supports the delivery of ecosystem services and net benefits to biodiversity across site boundaries; and
- The importance of protecting habitats, and networks of habitats, is reflected in the Swansea Local Development Plan, including the following:
  - Policy ER 1 (Climate Change) – *“Development proposals should mitigate against the effects of climate change, adapt to its impacts and ensure resilience”*;
  - Policy ER 8 (Habitat and Species) – *“Development proposals that would have a significant adverse effect on the continued viability of habitats and species, including those identified as priorities in the UK or Swansea Local Biodiversity Action Plan, will only be permitted where: 1) The need for development outweighs the nature conservation importance of the site; 2) The developer demonstrates that there is no satisfactory alternative location for the development which avoids nature conservation impacts; 3) Effective mitigation measures are provided by the developer; and 4) Any unavoidable harm is minimised by effective mitigation to ensure that there is no reduction in the overall nature conservation value of the area. Where this is not feasible, compensation measures designed to conserve, enhance, manage and, where appropriate, restore natural habitats and species must be provided”*;
  - Policy ER 9 (Ecological Networks and Features of Importance for Biodiversity) – *“Development proposals will be expected to maintain, protect and enhance ecological networks and features of importance for biodiversity”*;
  - Policy ER 11 (Trees, Hedgerows and Development) – *“Development that would adversely affect trees, woodlands and hedgerows of public amenity or natural/cultural heritage value, or that provide important ecosystem services, will not normally be permitted”*; and
  - Policy RP 4 (Water Pollution and the Protection of Water Resources) – *“Development that compromises the quality of the water environment, or does not comply with good water resource management, will not be permitted. Development proposals must make efficient use of water resources and, where appropriate, contribute towards improvements to water quality.”*

3.13 The distribution of different habitat types within and adjacent to the Site is illustrated on **Plan EDP 3**. The habitats are further described in **Appendix EDP 1** alongside illustrative photographs. A summary and qualitative assessment of these habitats is provided in **Table EDP 3.3**.

**Table EDP 3.3:** Summary of Habitats Within the Site

Habitat Type	Distribution	Intrinsic Ecological Importance*
Bare Ground	Dominant across the southern extents of the Site.	Negligible
Ephemeral/Short Perennial	Scattered patches of vegetation across the Site becoming denser across the northern extents.	Site
Scattered Trees	Immature street tree planting adjacent to the western and southern boundaries of the Site.	Site
Other Features	Unvegetated fence line delineating the northern and eastern boundaries of the Site.	Negligible

\*Importance irrespective of any protected, priority or other notable species which may be present

- 3.14 As noted within **Table EDP 3.3**, the Site is made up of habitats which are of less than Local, or are of negligible, intrinsic importance. Nevertheless, such habitats still require consideration in relation to their importance in maintaining populations of protected, priority or other notable species. This is discussed further below.

### **PROTECTED, PRIORITY OR OTHER NOTABLE SPECIES**

- 3.15 Certain species receive legal protection in the UK and are commonly known as ‘protected species’. In reality, the level of protection for different species varies considerably, from protection solely against ‘killing and injury’ to full protection of the species and their places of refuge. Where pertinent, details of legal protection afforded to species/species-groups are provided below.
- 3.16 In addition to protected species there are other species/species-groups that do not receive legal protection, but which are notable owing to their conservation status. This includes Priority Species listed under Section 7 of the *Environment (Wales) Act 2016*, which public authorities in Wales must seek to maintain and enhance as part of policy or decision making in accordance with Section 6 of the *Environment (Wales) Act 2016*. PPW recognises species as an important component of biodiversity, as does the as does the Swansea Local Development Plan, specifically Policy ER8.
- 3.17 The likelihood of presence, or confirmed presence, of protected, priority or other notable<sup>11</sup> wildlife species within the Site is summarised below with reference to desk study records, habitat suitability and detailed surveys where relevant.

<sup>11</sup> Notable species are those which are not legally protected but are formally identified as being of conservation concern.



### **Breeding and Wintering Birds**

- 3.18 All wild birds, their nests and eggs are protected under the WCA. This makes it an offence to:
- Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird;
  - Take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built;
  - Take, damage or destroy the egg of any wild bird; or
  - To have in one's possession or control any wild bird (dead or alive) or egg, or any part of a wild bird or egg.
- 3.19 In addition, further protection is afforded to those wild bird species listed on Schedule 1 of the WCA, prohibiting any intentional or reckless disturbance to these species while it is nest building, or at a nest containing eggs or young, or to recklessly disturb the dependent young of such a bird. A number of species are also included as Priority Species.
- 3.20 Wintering birds do not receive direct legal protection; however, they may form part of a protected assemblage originating from a statutory designation in the vicinity.
- 3.21 A large number of records of bird species were retrieved during the desk study, including records of WCA Schedule 1 species, Priority Species, and records of species included on the latest Red and Amber lists of Birds of Conservation Concern in Wales<sup>12</sup>.
- 3.22 The Site is largely unsuitable for a breeding and wintering bird assemblage, being dominated by artificial surfaces with only scattered patches of ephemeral and short-perennial vegetation that offers a limited foraging resource to bird species. Suitable cover for nesting birds is largely absent, although ground nesting species may opportunistically utilise the Site. The presence of a ground nesting assemblage (particularly a notable one) is, however, unlikely given the Site's limited vegetative cover and increased likelihood of predation, being located within a developed area of Swansea.
- 3.23 There are, however, pockets of suitable habitat comprising scrub and grassland off-site to the immediate south, whilst the River Tawe, Prince of Wales Dock/King's Dock/Queen's Dock and Swansea Bay offer suitable habitat for coastal waders and wildfowl, as well as an assemblage of common and widespread garden variety species. Pertinent to the immediate environs of the Site, records for Schedule 1 species listed under the WCA include little ringed plover (*Charadrius dubius*), red kite (*Milvus milvus*) and black redstart (*Phoenicurus ochruros*).
- 3.24 Records of Red listed species include black-headed gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*), lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*), greater black-backed gull (*Larus marinus*), common gull, bullfinch (*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*), herring gull (*Larus canus*), kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*), linnets (*Linaria cannabina*), whitethroat (*Sylvia communis*), willow (*Phylloscopus trochilus*) and ringed plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*), with a record of this species returned for brownfield habitat 314m west of the Site.

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<sup>12</sup> Johnstone, I.G., Hughes, J., Balmer, D.E., Brenchley, A., Facey, R.J., Lindley, P.J., Noble, D.G. & Taylor, R.C. 2022. *Birds of Conservation Concern Wales 4: the population status of birds in Wales*. Milvus 2:1.

- 3.25 Amber listed species include skylark, with a record of this species returned for brownfield habitat 314m west of the Site, sand martin (*Riparia riparia*), swift (*Apus apus*), swallow (*Hirundo rustica*), goldcrest (*Regulus regulus*), greenfinch (*Carduelis chloris*), house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), lesser black-backed gull (*Larus fuscus*), meadow pipit (*Anthus pratensis*), mistle thrush (*Turdus viscivorus*), reed bunting (*Turdus viscivorus*) and song thrush (*Turdus philomelos*).
- 3.26 Given the limited potential for foraging and ground nesting birds a breeding bird assemblage is considered of no more than Site level importance, whilst a wintering bird assemblage is considered to be of negligible importance.

### **Bats**

- 3.27 All species of British bat are listed as European Protected Species (EPS) on Schedule 2 of the *Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017* (as amended) (referred to as the 'Habitats Regulations'). This affords strict protection to bats and their roosts, and makes it an offence to:
- Deliberately capture, injure or kill a wild animal of an EPS;
  - Deliberately disturb wild animals of an EPS wherever they are occurring, in particular, any disturbance which is likely to impair their ability to survive, to breed or reproduce, to significantly affect the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they belong, or in the case of hibernating or migratory species, to hibernate or migrate; or
  - Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of a wild animal of an EPS.
- 3.28 Additional protection for bats is also afforded under the WCA, making it an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb bats whilst they are occupying a structure or place which is used for shelter or protection, or to obstruct access to this structure or place. In addition, soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*), brown long-eared bat (*Plecotus auritus*), greater horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*), barbastelle bat (*Barbastella barbastellus*), Bechstein's bat (*Myotis bechsteinii*), noctule (*Nyctalus noctula*), and lesser horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus hipposideros*) are also listed as Priority Species.
- 3.29 The desk study returned several records for bats within the 2-6km search radius, relating to at least five different species including common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, noctule, lesser horseshoe and greater horseshoe bats, the latter two comprising Annex II species.
- 3.30 Of further note, a desk study returned a record of a pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus sp.*) roost c.1.65km north-east of the Site, and two records for a lesser horseshoe bat roost returned c.3.9km north-east of the Site.

### **Bat Roosting**

- 3.31 No trees nor built structures with potential to support roosting bats were identified within the Site. Although several street streets were recorded immediately off-site, these comprise young specimens with no potential roosting features.

### **Bat Foraging/Commuting Activity**

3.32 Overall, the habitats present within the Site were assessed as being of low-negligible suitability for foraging and commuting bats. Scattered patches of ephemeral/short perennial vegetation provide a limited foraging resource whilst there are no suitable habitat corridors that would provide cover for bat species and facilitate dispersal of an assemblage across the Site. Boundary features are absent or otherwise comprises chain-link fencing subject to some lighting impacts from adjacent street lighting. Undeveloped brownfield habitats and standing water adjacent to the Site, predominantly the south, south-west and east, however, provide more suitable opportunities for a bat assemblage such that a bat assemblage is unlikely to be entirely absent, albeit no greater than Site-level importance.

### **Dormouse**

3.33 Hazel dormouse (*Muscardinus avellanarius*) is an EPS receiving strict protection under the *Habitats Regulations* as summarised above in respect of bats. Additional protection is also afforded to this species under the WCA as summarised above in respect of bats. This species is also listed as a Priority Species.

3.34 No records for dormouse were returned within 2km of the Site's boundaries during the desk study, whilst habitats on-site are of negligible suitability for this species being dominated by an artificial gravel surface with vegetative cover limited to scattered patches of ephemeral/short perennial vegetation. Dormouse is thus presumed absent from the Site.

### **Otter and Water Vole**

3.35 Otter (*Lutra lutra*) is an EPS receiving strict protection under the *Habitats Regulations* as summarised above in respect of bats. Additional protection is also afforded to this species under the WCA as summarised above in respect of bats. This species is also listed as a Priority Species.

3.36 Water vole (*Arvicola amphibius*) and their burrows receive protection under Schedule 5 of the WCA. This makes it an offence to:

- Intentionally kill, injure or take (capture) a water vole;
- Intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any structure or place that a water vole uses for shelter or protection; and
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb water voles while they are in a place of shelter or protection.

3.37 Water vole is also listed as a Priority Species.

3.38 A desk study returned six records of otter within 2km of the Site, predominantly in association with the River Tawe c.880m west of the Site, whilst the Prince of Wales Dock/Queen's Dock/King's Dock also provides suitable habitat for this species off-site. With respect to water vole, a single record was returned for the Crymlyn Bog, c.740m north-east of the Site.

3.39 There is no suitable habitat for either species on the Site itself, nor is there suitable vegetative cover or connectivity with suitable habitat within the wider landscape for the Site to be of value as a dispersal corridor for either species.

3.40 Based on the above, populations of otter and water vole are judged to be of negligible importance.

### **Badger**

3.41 Badger (*Meles meles*) and their setts are protected under the *Protection of Badgers Act 1992*, which makes it an offence (*inter-alia*) to:

- Wilfully kill, injure, take, or cruelly ill-treat a badger; and
- Damage or interfere with a sett, by doing one of the following things:
  - Damage a badger sett or any part of it;
  - Destroy a badger sett;
  - Obstruct access to, or any entrance of, a badger sett;
  - Cause a dog to enter a badger sett; or
  - Disturb a badger when it is occupying a sett.

3.42 The 1992 Act defines a badger sett as “*any structure or place which displays signs indicating current use by a badger*”.

3.43 The protection afforded to badger is primarily due to animal welfare issues and history of persecution rather than concerns over their unfavourable nature conservation status.

3.44 Two records of badger were returned within 2km of the Site, both associated with lower southern elevations of Kilvey Hill, the closest 555m north of the Site, albeit spatially separated from the Site by existing residential and commercial development and main roads.

3.45 No evidence of badger was identified on-site, nor within 30m of its boundaries. The Site is, overall, considered of limited value for badger given the dominance of artificial substrates and limited extent of semi-natural habitat of value for foraging and cover to facilitate dispersal.

3.46 Particularly when taking into account the common status of badger within the country and district, the overall population is considered to be of negligible importance in the context of the Site.

### Other Mammal Species

- 3.47 Records of the following Priority mammal species were returned within 2km of the Site:
- European hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*)<sup>13</sup> – 26 records returned within 2km of the Site, predominantly associated with residential housing to the north of the Site and Fabian Way;
  - Harvest mouse (*Micromys minutus*) – four records all associated with Crymlyn Bog; and
  - Brown hare (*Lepus europaeus*) – three records associated with Kilvey Hill or agricultural land to its east.
- 3.48 Whilst European hedgehog is likely to be present within the immediate landscape, including offsite habitats to the east and south in particular, the Site itself is considered of negligible importance to this species given the lack of vegetative cover and limited value as a foraging resource. There is no suitable habitat for harvest mouse or brown hare within or adjacent to the Site and no connectivity between the Site and recorded populations in the wider landscape. Such species are thus considered of negligible importance in the context of the Site.

### Great Crested Newt and Other Amphibian Species

- 3.49 Great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*) is an EPS receiving strict protection under the *Habitats Regulations* as summarised above in respect of bats. Additional protection is also afforded to this species under the WCA as summarised above in respect of bats. This species is also listed as a Priority Species.
- 3.50 Other legally protected amphibians are rare and have a very restricted distribution<sup>14</sup>, however, common toad (*Bufo bufo*) is a widespread species which is listed as a Priority Species.
- 3.51 A single record of great crested newt was returned in association with Swansea Marina c.1km west of the Site, dated 2011. This record was, however, returned for a car park with no/limited suitable habitat for this species.
- 3.52 A desk study also returned 10 records for palmate newt (*Lissotriton helveticus*), one record for smooth newt (*Lissotriton vulgaris*) and 14 records for common frog (*Rana temporaria*), associated with Kilvey Hill and/or Crymlyn bog and land adjacent. This is in addition to 13 records of common toad and one additional record of common frog which are associated with remaining plots of brownfield land in and around Swansea waterfront, the closest record for common toad returned for brownfield land c.410m west.
- 3.53 There is no suitable aquatic habitat on the Site or within 500m of its boundaries. Although the Prince of Wales Dock lies adjacent to the south-west corner of the Site this is marine in nature and thus unsuitable for great crested newt and amphibian species. With respect to terrestrial habitat, scattered patches of ephemeral/short perennial vegetation are considered unsuitable for this species, offering no cover and a very limited foraging resource whilst existing development and main roads is considered a barrier to dispersal of this species between the

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<sup>13</sup> Hedgehogs are also protected from capture or killing by specific methods under Schedule 6 of the WCA.

<sup>14</sup> Natterjack toad (*Epidalea calamita*) and Northern pool frog (*Pelophylax lessonae*) are EPS, protected under WCA and are Priority Species.

Site and suitable habitat in the wider landscape. Several piles of rubble were, however, recorded along the northern and eastern edge of the Site and provide potential refugia for amphibian species.

- 3.54 Overall, great crested newt is presumed absent from the Site and considered to be of negligible importance. Common toad, common frog, smooth newt and palmate newt are, however, more widespread in their distribution. Given the proximity of desk study records for common toad in particular, combined with presence of suitable refugia around the boundaries of the Site and presence of suitable habitat off-site but adjacent, low numbers of such species may occur within the Site on occasion, and are thus considered of Site-level importance.

### Reptiles

- 3.55 All species of common reptile, namely common lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*), slow-worm (*Anguis fragilis*), grass snake (*Natrix helvetica*) and adder (*Vipera berus*), receive at least limited protection from harm under the WCA, making it an offence to cause intentional killing and injuring of these species. In addition, these species are also listed as Priority Species.
- 3.56 Thirty-four records for common lizard were returned within 2km of the Site including several records for brownfield land in and around Swansea Waterfront and its boundary with Swansea Bay. The closest of these records are located 157m north-west and 209m south-west of the Site. This is in addition to three records for grass snake and four records for slow-worm, these returned for land north of the Site and Fabian Way.
- 3.57 The Site is largely considered sub-optimal for a common reptile population given the limited extent of semi-natural habitat, although rubble piles provide potential refugia whilst suitable habitat is present off-site such that low numbers of such species may occur within the Site on occasion, but are considered of no more than Site-level importance.

### Invertebrates

- 3.58 Multiple records of notable invertebrates were returned by SEWBReC during the desk study, including records of notable species for land south-west of the Site. This includes records for small heath (*Coenonympha pamphilus*), wall (*Lasiommata megera*), timberman beetle (*Acanthocinus aedilis*), the beetle *Meligethes fulvipes*, Lesne's earwig (*Forficula lesnei*), grayling (*Hipparchia semele*) and Adonis ladybird (*Hippodamia variegata*), all Red data book species.
- 3.59 This is in addition to a record of small blue (*Cupido minimus*), listed under Schedule 5 of the WCA 1981 (as amended) and local Priority Species, including cinnabar (*Tyria jacobaeae*), dusky brocade (*Apamea remissa*), grass rivulet (*Perizoma albulata*), latticed heath (*Chiasmia clathrate*), small square-spot (*Diarsia rubi*), small phoenix (*Ecliptopera silaceata*), shoulder-striped wainscot (*tLeucania comma*), shaded broad-bar (*Scotopteryx chenopodiata*) rosy minor (*Litologia literosa*) and brown banded carder bee (*Bombus humilis*).
- 3.60 Terrestrial invertebrates surveys of land to the south-west of the Site comprising Plots E7 and E8 of the wider re-development of Swansea Waterfront recorded an overall total of 175 invertebrate species on two occasions in August and September 2023, including 17 species deemed to be of 'conservation importance' (i.e., species considered to be Nationally Local,

Scarce or Rare, and/or are listed under Section 7 of the *Environment (Wales) Act 2016* as species of 'principle importance for the conservation of biological diversity in Wales').

- 3.61 In contrast to the Site, however, plots E7 and E8 to the south-west are heavily vegetated and support a floristically rich grassland sward alongside scrub habitat. In contrast, the Site is dominated by artificial gravel substrate that for the most part is unvegetated except for scattered patches of ephemeral/short perennial vegetation which become slightly denser in the south. Such habitat is botanically species-poor overall, with discrete patches often dominated by a single species. Nevertheless, several flowering species were recorded across the Site and provide suitable foraging habitat for an invertebrate assemblage, whilst gravel substrate is likely to provide nesting habitat and refuge for a limited range of species. Particularly given the presence of more suitable habitat in the wide landscape, the presence of notable species of some conservation interest cannot be ruled out, albeit likely only present in small numbers and/or opportunistically utilising the limited suitable habitat across the Site, spilling over from land adjacent. Accordingly, the invertebrate assemblage present within the Site is considered to be of Site-level importance only.

#### **Rare/Scarce Plant Species**

- 3.62 A number of records of rare/scarce plants were returned within 2km of the Site, predominantly associated with statutory and non-statutory designated sites to the north of the Site and Fabian Way. Several records of Red data book species were also returned for undeveloped land around the peripheries of the King's and Queen's Dock, including variegated horsetail (*Equisetum variegatum*) and Welsh poppy (*Meconopsis cambrica*). This is in addition to records of species of local importance including yellow-wort (*Blackstonia perfoliata*), sickle medick (*Medicago sativa* subsp. *falcata*), sharp rush (*Juncus acutus*), northern yellow-cress (*Rorippa islandica*), prickly saltwort (*Salsola kali* subsp. *kali*), hoary mullein (*Verbascum pulverulentum*) and bearded fescue (*Vulpia ciliata*).
- 3.63 A desk study also returned several records of moss species associated with brownfield land further south of the Site and adjacent to Queen's Dock, including the following Red data species: wall screw-moss (*Tortula muralis*), great plait-moss (*Hypnum cupressiforme* var. *lacunosum*), rufous beard-moss (*Bryoerythrophyllum ferruginascens*) and creeping feather-moss (*Amblystegium serpens*).
- 3.64 With respect to non-native, invasive species, Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) was recorded on the opposite side of the unnamed road which defines the eastern boundary of the Site and land c.220m south-west of the Site. This is in addition to records of Japanese rose (*Kerria japonica*), montbretia (*Crocasmia pottsii* x *aurea* = *C. x crocosmiiflora*), rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*), wall cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster horizontalis*), hollyberry cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster bullatus*), *Cotoneaster hjelmqvist*, Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*), Himalayan cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster simonsii*), entire-leaved cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster microphyllus* agg.) and three-cornered garlic (*Allium triquetrum*). Each of these species are listed on Schedule 9 of the WCA. It is an offence for any person to plant or otherwise cause to grow a plant listed on Part II of Schedule 9 of the Act. This could include cutting the plant or roots and disturbing surrounding soil if not correctly managed. During the survey, a discrete patch of cotoneaster was recorded within the Site, this species similarly being listed under Schedule 9 of the WCA.

## SUMMARY OF KEY SURVEY FINDINGS

- 3.65 The key ecological features/receptors pertinent to the development proposals and requiring consideration within an Ecological Appraisal (non-EcIA) based on the survey findings described above, are set out in **Table EDP 3.4**.

**Table EDP 3.4:** Summary of Ecological Features

Feature	Key Attributes	Ecological Importance
<b>Statutory Designated Sites</b>		
Crymlyn Bog Ramsar Site and SAC	740m north-east. Largest example of valley floodplain topogenous mire in South Wales, and one of the largest surviving fens in the west of Britain.	International
Crymlyn Bog SSSI	800m north-east. Special interest for its fen (topogenous mire) communities, wet woodland, associated invertebrate assemblages, a substantial population of the nationally rare slender cotton grass and a population of the nationally scarce hornet robberfly.	National
Crymlyn Bog and Pant Y Sais NNR	1.6km north-east. Designated for its mire habitats and diverse bird and plant assemblage.	National
<b>Non-Statutory Designated Sites</b>		
Kilvey Hill	630m north. Supports a mosaic of habitat types including woodland, scrub, and acid/neutral/calcareous grassland of importance to a diverse invertebrate assemblage, breeding birds including skylark ( <i>Alauda arvensis</i> ) and notable plant species.	County
Tawe Corridor	960m west. SINC comprises a river and associated habitats along its peripheries (forming semi-natural continuous linear vegetation), dominated by wet woodland.	County
Swansea Bay	1km south. Recognised for a diversity of coastal and intertidal habitats including saltmarsh, intertidal mudflats, maritime cliffs and slopes, sandy shores and coastal sand dunes supporting a diverse bird assemblage and several notable plant species.	County
<b>Species</b>		
Breeding birds	Limited suitable habitat for foraging and ground nesting bird species.	Site



<b>Feature</b>	<b>Key Attributes</b>	<b>Ecological Importance</b>
Foraging/commuting bats	Site likely to supported limited assemblage of bats, primarily utilising offsite habitats and features for foraging and dispersal.	Site
Other amphibian species and common reptiles	Limited suitable habitat for foraging with refugia present.	Site
Invertebrates	Site likely to support a limited assemblage of predominantly common/widespread species with off-site habitats of greater importance.	Site

## Appendix EDP 1 Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey

### METHODOLOGY

#### Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey

- A1.1 The survey technique adopted for the Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey was at a level intermediate between a standard Phase 1 survey technique, involving habitat mapping and description, and a Phase 2 survey, based on detailed habitat and species surveys. The survey involved identifying and mapping the main habitat types (including Priority Habitats) and scoping any potential protected or Priority Species<sup>15</sup> populations. This level of survey is not intended to compile a complete floral and faunal inventory for the Site.
- A1.2 The Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey was undertaken by a suitably experienced surveyor on 16 July 2024, during which the weather was dry with 100% cloud cover, light wind and 16°C.

#### Limitations

- A1.3 July is within the optimum period for undertaking an Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey, such that seasonal and climatic factors are not considered a constraint to survey area.
- A1.4 Surveys were limited to recording plant species present in both vegetative and floristic forms at the time of survey; the lack of any species record from this report does not automatically imply species' absence from the Site.

### RESULTS

- A1.5 The principal habitats within the Site together with their dominant/characteristic plant species identified during the survey are discussed in turn below. The following should be read in conjunction with **Plan EDP 3**, and illustrative photographs provided where appropriate.

#### Bare Ground

- A1.6 The entirety of the Site is characterised by a large gravel substrate. The majority of the southern half of the Site is mostly bare, with only discrete patches of vegetation establishing across the gravel. The northern half of the Site is, in contrast, more vegetated (as described below) albeit with the same underlying substrate. Bare ground is considered to be of negligible ecological importance.

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<sup>15</sup> Species considered of key significance to sustain and improve biodiversity in Wales, as defined under Section 7 of Part 1 of the *Environment (Wales) Act 2016*.



**Image EDP A1.1:** Predominantly bare ground across the southern extents of the Site.

### **Ephemeral/Short Perennial Vegetation**

- A1.7 Ephemeral/short perennial vegetation is establishing across the Site, growing through the artificial gravel substrate. Although remaining scattered in distribution overall, the northern half of the Site is more vegetated compared to the south. Discrete patches of vegetated areas are often dominated by a single herb or tall ruderal species, although the dominant species often varies across the Site. Horsetail (*Equisetum* sp.) is dominant across vegetated areas within the south of the Site, with discrete patches of red fescue (*Festuca rubra*) and purple-moor grass (*Molinia caerulea*) which often appeared dead. Further north the dominant species becomes more varied and includes black medick (*Medicago lupulina*) and hoary willowherb (*Epilobium parviflorum*), which appears to have largely replaced the horsetail. Other species occurring within the Site include locally abundant red fescue (*Festuca rubra*) and locally frequent bird's-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*). White clover (*Trifolium repens*), yellow wort (*Blackstonia perfoliata*), evening primrose (*Oenothera biennis*), mayweed (*Tripleurospermum* sp.), hoary mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*) and common centaury (*Centaureum erythraea*) are occasional. Greater plantain (*Plantago media*), bristly oxtongue (*Helminthotheca echioides*), teasel (*Dipsacus fullonum*), spurge (*Euphorbia* sp.), common storks bill (*Erodium cicutarium*), goosefoot (*Chenopodium album*), ragwort (*Jacobaea vulgaris*), Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lunatus*), purple moor-grass, restharrow (*Ononis repens*), mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*) and red pimpernel occur rarely (*Anagallis arvensis*). Scattered saplings of oak (*Quercus* sp.) and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) were also recorded. Some moss and lichen cover were identified in discrete patches across the Site characterised by a single species which dominates within any one area.



**Image EDP A1.2:** Ephemeral/short perennial vegetation across northern extent of the Site.

- A1.8 Given the poor structural diversity with such habitat typically dominated by a single species within any one area of the Site, an ephemeral/short perennial community is considered to be of site level importance.

#### **Scattered Trees**

- A1.9 A scattered line of street tree planting is present off-site but immediately adjacent to the western and northern boundary, comprising fruiting species such as apple (*Malus sp.*). New scattered tree planting is considered to be of no more than Site-level importance given their relative immaturity and limited extent.



**Image EDP A1.3:** Scattered, immature street tree planting.

### **Other Features**

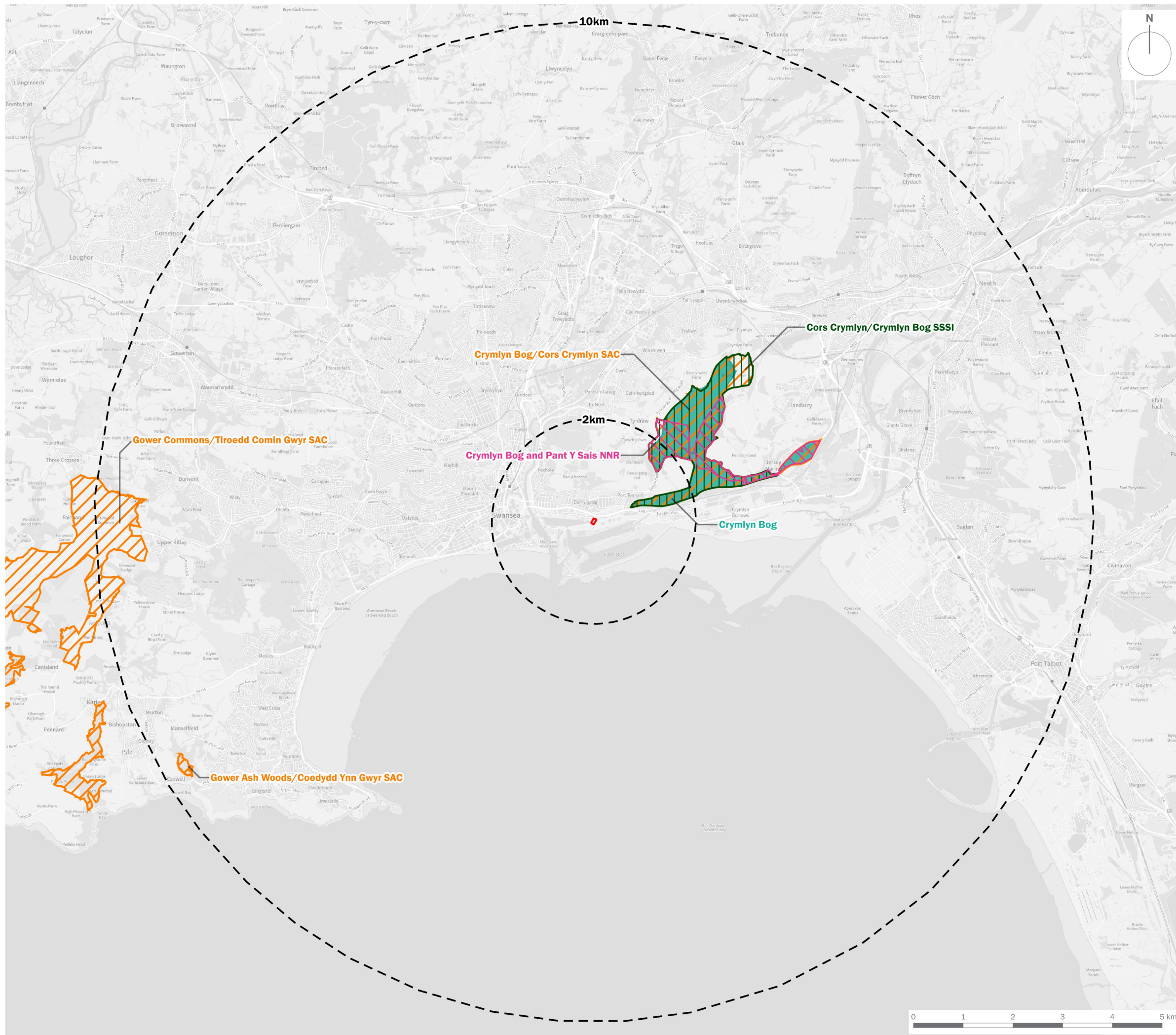
A1.10 The northern and eastern boundaries of the Site are delineated by an unvegetated chain-link fence line considered to be of negligible ecological importance.

## Plans

**Plan EDP 1:** Statutory Designations  
(edp8862\_d001a 25 September 2024 JFr/EWi)

**Plan EDP 2:** Non-statutory Designations  
(edp8862\_d002a 25 September 2024 JFr/EWi)

**Plan EDP 3:** Phase 1 Habitat Plan  
(edp8862\_d003a 25 September 2024 JFr/EWi)

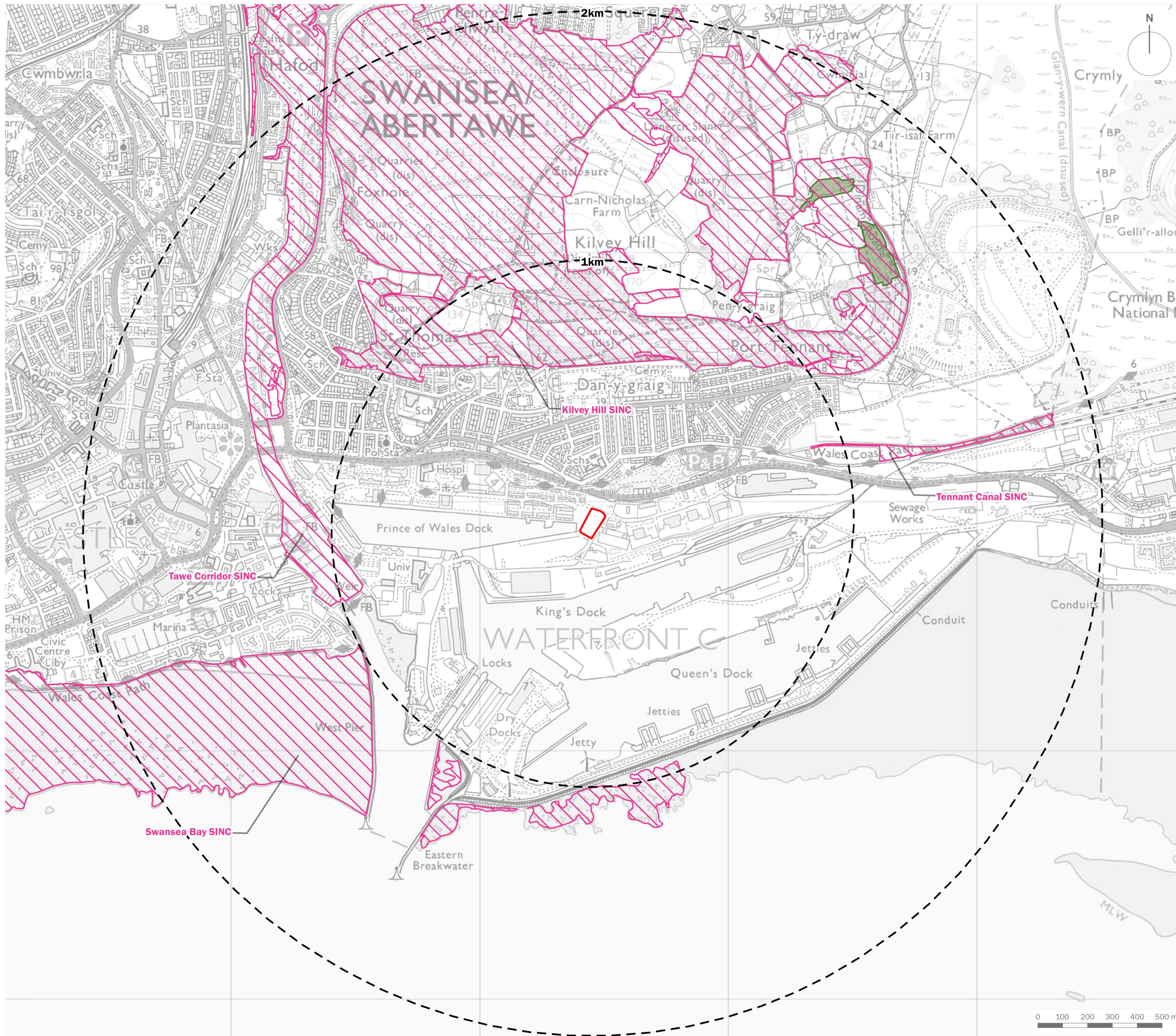


- Site Boundary
- Range Rings (at 2km and 10km)
- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)
- Ramsar Wetlands
- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- National Nature Reserves (NNR)

client		
<b>Pobl Group</b>		
project title		
<b>Plot E6, Swansea Waterfront</b>		
drawing title		
<b>Statutory Designations</b>		
date	<b>25 SEPTEMBER 2024</b>	drawn by <b>JFr</b>
drawing number	<b>edp8862_d001a</b>	checked <b>EWI</b>
scale	<b>1:75,000 @ A3</b>	QA <b>GYo</b>



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- Site Boundary
- Range Rings (at 1km intervals)
- Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)
- Ancient Semi-natural Woodland

client  
**Pobl Group**

project title  
**Plot E6, Swansea Waterfront**

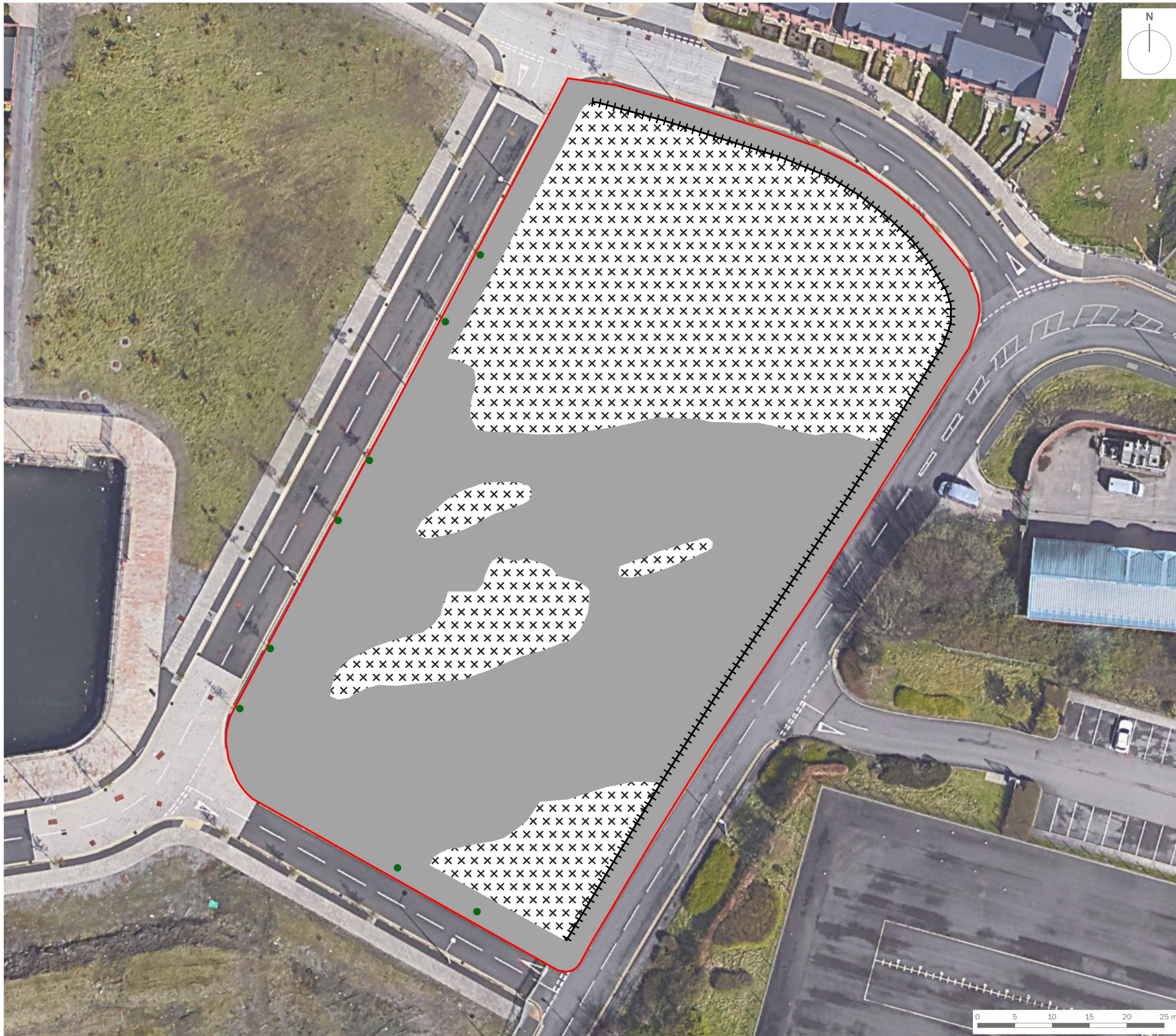
drawing title  
**Non-statutory Designations**

date **25 SEPTEMBER 2024** drawn by **JFr**  
drawing number **edp8862\_d002a** checked **EWI**  
scale **1:15,000 @ A3** QA **GYo**



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- Site Boundary
- Ephemeral/Short Perennial
- Hardstanding
- Fence
- Scattered Trees (Broadleaved)

client

**Pobl Group**

project title

**Plot E6, Swansea Waterfront**

drawing title

**Phase 1 Habitat Plan**

date	<b>25 SEPTEMBER 2024</b>	drawn by	<b>JFr</b>
drawing number	<b>edp8862_d003a</b>	checked	<b>EWI</b>
scale	<b>1:500 @ A3</b>	QA	<b>GYo</b>



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