

Dear

ATISN 26368 Disused Coal Tips Safety and Funding (Refined Scope)

Thank you for your request which I received on 12 November 2025.

You asked for information about disused coal tips classed as “high” or “very high” risk located within Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough from 1st January 2023 to the present day:

1. A list of sites, their location/site name and risk category
2. Funding or remedial works
 - Amount of funding allocated or awarded
 - Date of award
 - Recipient body or contractor
 - Brief description of the work carried out
3. Any decision paper, briefing, or summary that records how these sites were prioritised for inspection, maintenance, or funding during this period.

You asked for the material to be provided in electronic format (PDF or Word documents) and links or citations to any of the requested information already publicly available.

Our Response

Please note that the terms “high” or “very high” risk are not terms in use by the Welsh Government when categorising disused coal tips.

We have interpreted that you are referring to category C and D rated tips in your request as these categories of tips have been classed as having the potential to impact public safety. Further information on how disused coal tips are categorised can be found here:

<https://www.gov.wales/coal-tip-safety>.

Requested information at point 1 (above) can be found as a list of category C and D tips in Annex A to this document. Furthermore, an online map of disused coal tips in Wales can be found here: <https://www.gov.wales/find-disused-coal-tips>.

Requested information at point 2 (above) can be found in the attached spreadsheet.

For information requested at point 3 we have split your request into 3 parts:

Prioritisation of Inspections

Inspections are prioritised on the basis of a tips category rating which is determined by technical experts from the Mining Remediation Authority (MRA) who appraise and inspect disused coal tips on behalf of the Welsh Government. The category rating determines the minimum frequency of inspections of a disused tip. This is twice annually for category D tips and once annually for category C tips.

A range of factors are considered by the MRA when determining a tips category rating including a tip’s size and geometry, potential hazards, potential receptors, site history, any associated infrastructure, and inspection and monitoring requirements.

Local authorities and Natural Resources Wales (NRW) may undertake their own programme on inspection and monitoring activities, further Welsh Government's national programme. This might include inspections of sites following high rainfall events.

Prioritisation of Maintenance

Responsibility for the management of a disused coal tip ultimately sits with the site owner. With regards to the public sector led programme of maintenance activities, this is led by local authorities and NRW with funding provided via Welsh Government's Coal Tip Safety Grant Scheme. The MRA issued inspection reports include recommendations for maintenance works as well as site management practices. Welsh Government expect tip owners and public authorities to prioritise maintenance activities to reduce potential threats posed, with particular focus where they are identified on higher category tips or where they are designated as being of importance by the MRA.

Prioritisation of Funding

In respect of the awarding of grant funding, local authorities and NRW submit applications for funding to the Welsh Government's Coal Tip Safety Grant Scheme team. It is public authorities that outline the programme of works they intend to undertake in that financial year. The details requested in the application for funding include the site or tip name/location name, the Tip UID and the category of the tip (i.e .A,B,C,D) and who will be undertaking the works. All applications for funding are assessed by the Coal Tip Safety Grant Scheme team and considered on merit.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,

Annex A

List of Category C and D Disused Coal Tips in Rhondda Cynon Taf

Tip Name	UID	Tip Category	x	y
Abercynon Colliery And Putwell Farm	T94038	C	308656	193818
Aberdare Tip A	T58913	C	301846	202453
Abernant Forge Tip A	T61330	C	300769	203339
Abernant Forge Tip B	T66954	C	301018	203586
Abernant Forge Tip C	T18212	C	301352	203684
Abernant Forge Tip D	T37255	C	301537	203668
Bedwlwyn Colliery Old Level North (Cwmaman)	T77634	C	300761	199139
Bedwlwyn Colliery Old Level South (Cwmaman)	T88951	C	300786	199070
Blaenrhondda	T52312	C	292574	199968
Blaenrhondda Northern Tip (Fernhill Colliery Tip 486)	T32475	C	292548	201127
Blaenrhondda Southern Tip	T43455	C	292528	200562
Bryn Pica Southern Extension	T18372	C	300799	204457
Bryn Pica Tip	T64880	C	300644	205162
Bryn-defaid Patch	T78546	C	300070	205805
Carn Parc North	T32609	C	307651	194284
Carn Parc South	T29496	C	307750	194095
Craig Pwllfa Main	T91397	C	300568	198809
Craig Pwllfa Main South	T15193	C	300516	198651
Craig Pwllfa Minor	T68702	C	300191	199156
Cwmaman Tip A	T25132	C	300629	199310
Cymmer	T91396	C	301535	190981
Dynea	T71100	C	310103	188393
Fernhill Collieries Western Tip (Blaenrhondda)	T66850	C	292639	200314
Foel Goch	T65248	C	293277	200037
Gelli Central	T80019	C	298098	194640
Graig Nant Melyn- Graig Lwyd 1	T49004	C	296978	203034
Graig Nant Melyn- Graig Lwyd 2	T86495	C	297106	203083
Graig Nant Melyn- Graig Lwyd 3	T76603	C	297169	203035
Graig Nant Melyn- Graig Lwyd 4	T50225	C	297269	203063
Graig Nant Melyn- Graig Lwyd 5	T61741	C	297338	203051
Graig Yr Allt	T11560	C	313414	184550
Kingfisher Pond	T30649	C	302051	204285
Lewis Merthyr South	T92565	C	303870	189777
Llwydcoed Southern Tip	T13393	C	299272	204394
Llwynypia Mynydd Brith-weunydd	T42979	C	299918	193432
Maerdy Upper Tip	T64228	C	296381	199559
Mynydd Brithweunydd	T54080	C	300126	192911
New Rockwood Btm	T52313	C	312415	184277
Pen Yr Englyn Eastern Lower Tip	T83781	C	294715	197893
Penrhiw	T23125	C	306176	188865
Penrhiwceiber Tip C	T61014	C	305933	196832
Pentre Tip C	T66145	C	297844	195490

Pentre Tip D East	T52193	C	297820	196353
Pentre Tip E	T27889	C	298015	195485
Pentre Tip H	T58579	C	297714	195580
Rhiw Mynach Southern Tip	T40403	C	299536	201974
Rhiw Mynach Tip	T21312	C	299556	202159
Treallaw	T67720	C	299855	192961
Twyn y Blaenant	T78161	C	302129	204597
Ty Draw	T41543	C	292267	197779
Tylorstown Eastern Tip	T29815	C	301945	195614
Tymawr Tip 430	T54084	C	305982	191260
Tyn-y-Bedw A	T67255	C	296262	196959
Wattstown	T15891	C	302179	193322
Ynyshir Park Eastern Tip A	T82751	C	302935	192608
Ynyshir Park Eastern Tip B	T74504	C	303202	192660
Aberdare Tip C	T47957	D	302444	202405
Abergorky	T54048	D	296170	198197
Blaencwm - Glenrhondda Tip 220	T26163	D	291816	198079
Blaencwm - Glenrhondda Tip 469	T64765	D	291920	198647
Blaencwm - Landslide 5	T89638	D	291829	198405
Blaencwm - Tydraw Tip 221	T95417	D	292479	198801
Blaencwm - Tydraw Tip 468	T95626	D	292271	198290
Cefnpennar	T16477	D	304093	200476
Cilfynydd West	T81524	D	309104	192424
Cwm Coedely Colliery Tip 215	T76136	D	307002	186274
Dare	T96205	D	295433	195788
Gelliwion	T86554	D	305028	190471
Graig Ddu Dinas	T52902	D	300829	191569
Graig Nant Melyn	T94048	D	297009	202922
Graig Nant Melyn- Graig Lwyd	T14496	D	297102	202980
Graig Nant Melyn- West	T82153	D	296873	202998
Lewis Merthyr	T65411	D	303777	190497
Maendy 2 (Coed Maendy)	T41586	D	296029	195966
Nant Ynys Feio	T94294	D	295075	198458
National Colliery	T57806	D	302321	194299
Pen Yr Englyn Eastern Tip	T65208	D	294894	198058
Penrhiwceiber Tip 145	T66713	D	306101	196644
Penrhiwceiber Tip D	T36801	D	305461	196315
Pentre Tip D	T58499	D	297399	195947
Tylorstown - East	T64696	D	301164	196259
Tylorstown - West	T63345	D	300958	196229
Tyn y Bedw	T83512	D	296806	196636
Wattstown West	T42390	D	301596	193318
Y Fwrdd Mt Ash	T70927	D	304977	199989