

22 July 2026

Dear

ATISN 27135 - 44 Swansea Road, Hirwaun (listed building 10898)

Thank you for your request which I received on Thursday 25 June.

Under the heading Listing, Designation and Heritage Significance, you asked for:

- All records relating to the listing, designation, amendment, review, reassessment or protection of the property.
- Listing descriptions, supporting assessments, designation reports and historical records.
- Historic photographs, surveys, drawings, maps and archival material relating to the property.

Please see docs 1a-d, 2a-d and 3a-d.

It may be helpful if I clarify that the building was originally listed as “44 Merthyr Road” before being corrected to “44 Swansea Road.”

The Tithe Map and Ordnance Survey Maps referred to in the listing description references are in the public domain, the former published on the National Library for Wales website here: [Tithe Maps of Wales - Home](#), the latter published on the National Library of Scotland website here: [Map images - National Library of Scotland](#).

- Records relating to the setting of the listed building and any curtilage structures.
- Internal discussions, recommendations, assessments and correspondence concerning the decision to list the property and any subsequent reviews or amendments.
- Any records identifying features considered to contribute to the property's special architectural or historic interest.

Cadw does not hold this information.

Under the heading Consultation Responses and Advice, you asked for:

- All consultation responses, comments, recommendations and advice provided by Cadw in relation to planning applications, listed building consent applications, conservation matters or heritage issues affecting the property.
- All correspondence between Cadw and Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council concerning the property.

Please see docs 4a-f and 5a-f regarding Listed Building Consent (LBC) applications 13/0147/LBC and 24/0983/LBC respectively.

Doc 4e is already in the public domain – published on the local planning authority (LPA) planning portal – but is included for your convenience.

Cadw does not hold the other information requested.

- Correspondence between Cadw and Welsh Government departments concerning the property.
- Advice provided to the Council regarding proposed works, alterations, repairs, demolition, reconstruction, extensions, tree works, landscaping works or changes affecting the listed building, its setting or curtilage.
- Internal discussions and recommendations relating to consultation responses issued by Cadw.

Cadw does not hold this information.

Under the heading Site Visits and Inspections, you asked for:

- Inspection notes, reports, photographs, videos, observations and recommendations arising from those visits.
- Records of all site visits undertaken by Cadw officers or representatives.
- Records relating to the condition, preservation, repair or protection of the listed building.

Please see inspection photos at docs 6a-j. I have redacted a car registration plate from the image in Doc 6d under Regulation 13 of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and my reasoning for doing so is set out in Annex B.

Please see inspection report at Doc 7. I have redacted information from the inspection report under Regulation 13 of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and my reasoning for doing so is set out in Annex B.

Cadw does not hold the other information requested.

Under the heading Unauthorised Works and Enforcement Matters, you asked for:

- Records relating to actual, alleged, suspected or investigated unauthorised works affecting the listed building, its setting or curtilage.
- Advice, comments or recommendations provided by Cadw in relation to enforcement matters or potential breaches of listed building legislation.
- Correspondence with Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council regarding investigations, enforcement action or compliance concerns.
- Internal discussions, file notes, emails and reports concerning actual or potential breaches of listed building controls.

Cadw does not hold this information.

- Correspondence concerning alterations, demolition, repairs, reconstruction, extensions, tree works or other changes affecting the property's special architectural or historic interest.

Please see doc 2c.

Under the heading Condition, Preservation and Protection, you asked for:

- Records relating to the condition of the listed building and any concerns regarding deterioration, damage, neglect, inappropriate works or loss of historic fabric.

Please see Doc 7.

- Any records concerning proposals for repair, restoration, preservation, maintenance or management of the property.

Cadw does not hold this information.

- Any records relating to heritage grants, funding applications, grant assessments, grant conditions or grant compliance concerning the property.

I can confirm Cadw has not received any grant applications or awarded any grants concerning this property.

Under the heading Ecology, Wildlife and Protected Species, you asked for:

- Any records held relating to bats, bat roost potential, protected species, ecology, nesting birds or environmental considerations associated with the listed building, its curtilage, trees or associated structures.
- Correspondence with Natural Resources Wales, ecological consultants or Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council concerning ecological or wildlife matters affecting the property.

Cadw does not hold this information.

Under the heading Ongoing and Current Matters, you asked for:

- all information held at the date this request is processed relating to any ongoing, open, live, pending or active matters concerning 44 Swansea Road, Hirwaun.
- For any ongoing matter, please provide: the current status of the matter; any reports, recommendations, assessments or advice held; internal and external correspondence; site visit records and inspection notes; recorded next steps, proposed actions or anticipated decisions.; any discussions with Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council, Natural Resources Wales, consultants, owners, occupiers, agents or other third parties.

Cadw does not hold this information.

- You asked Cadw to confirm whether it currently has any open concerns, investigations, reviews, consultations or ongoing involvement relating to 44 Swansea Road, Hirwaun.

Cadw does not currently have any open concerns, investigations, reviews, consultations or ongoing involvement relating to this building.

In addition to the above, I have redacted personal information of Welsh Government and local government officers, past and present, under Regulation 13 of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and my reasoning for doing so is set out at Annex B.

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: freedomofinformation@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,

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Doc	Date	Title
1a	01/02/1990	44 Merthyr Rd, Hirwaun – survey photo
1b	01/02/1990	44 Merthyr Rd, Hirwaun – survey photo
1c	March 2002	44 Swansea Rd, Hirwaun – resurvey photo
1d	March 2002	44 Swansea Rd, Hirwaun – resurvey photo
2a	23/05/2002	Hirwaun Community Resurvey – annotated OS map
2b	12/06/2002	Hirwaun Community Resurvey – advance notification
2c	29/07/2002 ¹	Hirwaun Community Resurvey – LPA comments
2d	06/08/2002	Hirwaun Community Resurvey – published
3a	31/07/1990	Listing Description – original
3b	04/10/1990	Listing Description – corrected
3c	26/04/2002	Listing Description – draft amendment
3d	06/08/2002	Listing Description – final (current) version
4a	06/08/2013	LBC ref 13/0147/LBC – receipt letter to LPA
4b	06/08/2013	LBC ref 13/0147/LBC – summary to inspector
4c	23/08/2013	LBC ref 13/0147/LBC – additional time required
4d	04/09/2013	LBC ref 13/0147/LBC – inspector's comments
4e	05/09/2013	LBC ref 13/0147/LBC – Cadw response email
4f	05/09/2013	LBC ref 13/0147/LBC – Cadw response letter
5a	28/04/2025	LBC ref 24/0983/LBC – notification email from LPA
5b	undated	LBC ref 24/0983/LBC – LPA officer report
5c	30/04/2025	LBC ref 24/0983/LBC – acknowledgement letter
5d	09/05/2025	LBC ref 24/0983/LBC – inspector's comments
5e	09/05/2025	LBC ref 24/0983/LBC – Cadw response email
5f	09/05/2025 ²	LBC ref 24/0983/LBC – Cadw response letter
6a-g	16/05/2007	Inspection photos
6h	17/03/2011	Inspection photo
6i	25/11/2016	Inspection photo
6j	03/09/2023	Inspection photo
7	03/09/2023	Inspection report

¹ Letter dated 29 July 2001 in error.

² Letter addressed to Swansea Council in error.

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Regulation 13 of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004

I have decided to withhold the following information:

Information being withheld	Section number and exception name
Personal information of Cadw officers, past and present. Personal information of local government officers, past and present. An Inspection Report, that could identify individual(s). Other personal information including names and car registration plates that could identify individual(s).	Regulation (13) of the Environmental Information Regulations: the information requested includes personal data of which the applicant is not the data subject.

Engagement of Regulation 13

Regulation 13(1) together with the conditions in Regulation 13(2)(a)(i) and 13(2)(a)(ii) provides an absolute exemption if disclosure of the personal data would breach any of the data protection principles.

‘Personal data’ is defined in sections 3(2) and (3) of the Data Protection Act 2018 (‘the DPA 2018’) and means any information relating to an identified or identifiable living individual. An identifiable living individual is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of the individual.

After very careful consideration, I have concluded that, in this instance, the information requested contains personal data:

1. The information requested contains identifiers for Cadw and local government officers, past and present, and other individuals. It can be used to directly identify individuals and therefore constitutes personal data.
2. The inspection report includes, amongst other information:
 - building address and location;
 - condition information recorded at the time of survey;
 - use, level of occupancy / vacancy and ownership type recorded at the time of survey;

- risk assessment and historic asset assessment information;
- priority action score information.

No information is held which is intended directly to identify an individual. However, in combination with other information, this may indirectly identify an individual and may therefore be capable of constituting personal data. Data relating to the risk status, condition, use and occupancy of listed buildings is capable of being treated as personal data where it concerns individuals' domestic circumstances or living conditions.

3. Similarly, a car registration plate would not normally identify an individual, but in combination with other information e.g. location, it may indirectly identify an individual and may therefore be capable of constituting personal data.

Under Regulation 13(1) of the EIRs, personal data is exempt from release if disclosure would breach one of the data protection principles set out in Article 5 of the GDPR. I consider the principle being most relevant in this instance as being the first. This states that personal data must be: *"processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject."*

- The starting point is to consider whether it would be fair to the data subject to disclose their personal data;
- If disclosure would not be fair, then the information is exempt from disclosure.

I have considered the [public interest test](#) set out in Regulation 12.1b and I consider that the individuals concerned would have a reasonable expectation that their personal data would be kept confidential and not disclosed to the world at large. It would not be fair to the individuals concerned to release their personal data.

Disclosure could give rise to unfair and unwarranted intrusion on individuals' privacy in the circumstances of this case and has the potential to cause unnecessary and unjustified harm to the individuals in this case.

I have thus concluded that in in this case, disclosure would not have been within the reasonable expectation of individuals, and the loss of privacy would cause unwarranted distress. It is my view that disclosure would breach the first data protection principle, and so is exempt from release under Regulation 13 of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.