Cyngor Bwrdeisdref Sirol
Blaenau Gwent
County Borough Council

Blaenau Gwent CBC

2026 Air Quality Progress Report

In fulfilment of Part IV of the Environment Act 1995, as amended by the Environment Act 2021

Local Air Quality Management

Date: September 2026

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Executive Summary: Air Quality in Our Area

Air Quality in Blaenau Gwent

This progress report is the latest in a series of reports relating to air quality and has been compiled and published by Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council. The report contains the latest air quality data for the calendar year of 2025 applicable to the County Borough and provides current information relating to any new local developments or issues that may have an impact on air quality.

The UK's National Air Quality Strategy sets air quality objectives for seven key pollutants which Local Authorities are legally required to have regard to. These include Benzene, 1,3 Butadiene, Carbon Monoxide, Lead, Nitrogen Dioxide, Particulate Matter (PM_{10}) & (PM 2.5) and Sulphur Dioxide. The sources of these pollutants vary but include emissions to atmosphere from a variety of industrial processes, energy generation, domestic and industrial combustion and road traffic.

Local authorities are obliged to periodically review the air quality within their area to determine the risk of the air quality objectives set out in the national strategy being exceeded. If a Local Authority identifies a risk of any of the objectives being exceeded within its area, then they must proceed to a Detailed Assessment for that pollutant and declare an air quality management area (AQMA).

Much of the traditional coal and steel industry that historically populated the Borough has been replaced by a diverse industrial base comprising of businesses such as pharmaceuticals, battery and computer systems, electronic and high-tech engineering companies. The closure of much of the heavy industry in the area has had an adverse impact on the local economy but conversely it has meant the removal of significant sources of air pollution.

The previous reports produced by Blaenau Gwent CBC have concluded that it is unlikely that any of the air quality objectives that the Council are required to have regard to, are being exceeded or will be exceeded within the Borough and therefore no Detailed Assessment for any pollutant has been carried out to-date. Blaenau Gwent CBC has not declared any AQMA's.

This 2026 air quality progress report **does not** identify the need for Blaenau Gwent CBC to proceed to a Detailed Assessment for any of the seven pollutants identified in the UK's National Air Quality Strategy.

The next Air Quality Progress Report for the County Borough of Blaenau Gwent is scheduled to be published in September 2027.

Actions to Improve Air Quality

Blaenau Gwent CBC has not declared any air quality management areas (AQMA) within our borough and so as a result has not had to produce an air quality action plan.

The environmental health section continues to work closely with other internal council departments, such as planning control, to monitor and review developments that may impact on local air quality. We also continue to regulate a variety of industrial processes that hold environmental permits. We also respond and deal with air quality pollution incidents and smoke nuisance complaints.

Local Priorities and Challenges

Blaenau Gwent CBC aims to continue to protect the public health of people living in Blaenau Gwent by maintaining good levels of air quality within our area. This is being done by carrying out additional air quality monitoring at several sensitive locations including schools within our borough. The results from these monitoring locations are reported in this air quality progress report.

How to Get Involved

Further information on air quality within the Blaenau Gwent area can be found by visiting the air quality section of the council's website:

http://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/en/resident/environmental-health/pollution/air-quality/

Or by contacting us directly at:

Environmental Health Section, Environmental Protection Team, Blaenau Gwent CBC, General Offices, Steelworks Road, Ebbw Vale, NP23 6DN.

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1 Actions to Improve Air Quality

Previous Work in Relation to Air Quality

Table 1.1 provides a comprehensive list of the reports produced by Blaenau Gwent CBC as a result of previous rounds of review and assessment of the air quality within the Borough and summarises the main findings of each report.

Table 1.1 - Reports Produced by Blaenau Gwent CBC as A Result of Previous Rounds of Local Air Quality Review and Assessment

Report	Review And Assessment Undertaken & Conclusions	Year Published
1999 First Stage Review and Assessment	Initial screening of industrial, transport and other significant sources of air pollution within the Borough. Concluded that it is unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	1999
2003 Updating and Screening Assessment	In-depth review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2003
2004 Progress Report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2004
2005 Progress Report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and	2005

	therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	
2006 Updating and Screening Assessment	In-depth review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2006
2007 Progress Report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2007
2008 Progress Report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2008
2009 Updating and Screening Assessment	In-depth review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2009
2010 Progress Report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2010
2011 Progress Report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2011

2012 Updating and Screening Assessment Report	In-depth review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2012
2013 Progress Report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2013
2014 Progress Report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2014
2015 Updating and Screening Assessment Report	In-depth review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2015
2016 Progress Report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2016
2017 Progress Report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2017
2018 Progress Report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and	2018

	therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	
2019 Progress Report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2019
2020 Progress Report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2020
2021 Progress Report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2021
2022 Progress Report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2022
2023 Progress Report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2023
2024 Progress report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2024

2025 Progress report	Review of any matters which may have changed since the last review and assessment which may lead to a risk of an air quality objective being exceeded. Concluded no significant changes and therefore unlikely that there will be failure to achieve any of the air quality objectives.	2025

Air Quality Management Areas

Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) are declared when air quality is close to or above an acceptable level of pollution (known as the air quality objective (Please see Appendix A)). After declaring an AQMA the authority must prepare an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) within 18 months setting out measures it intends to put in place to improve air quality to at least the air quality objectives, if not even better. AQMA(s) are seen by local authorities as the focal points to channel resources into the most pressing areas of pollution as a priority.

Blaenau Gwent CBC currently does not have any AQMAs.

Implementation of Action Plans

Blaenau Gwent CBC has not declared any air quality management areas and as a result has not published an air quality action plan.

Top three air quality actions In Blaenau Gwent

1. Air quality monitoring at 9 schools in Blaenau Gwent.

We currently carry out nitrogen dioxide monitoring using diffusion tubes at the below schools-

- Ebbw Fawr Learning Campus, Primary School, Ebbw Vale.
- Georgetown Primary School, Oakfield Road, Tredegar.
- Brynbach Primary School, Merthyr Road, Tredegar.
- St Marys Roman Catholic Primary School, Catholic Road, Brynmawr.
- Abertillery Learning Campus, Tillery Street, Abertillery.
- Deighton Primary School, Stockton Way, Tredegar.
- Six Bells Primary Campus, Abertillery Learning Community, Six Bells Road, Six Bells, Abertillery.
- Rhos Y Fedwin Primary School, Honeyfield Road, Rassau, Ebbw Vale.
- Blaen Y Cwm Primary School, Blaenavon Road, Brynmawr.

The purpose of the monitoring at the schools is to ensure that the air quality standards are being met to protect the health of the children but to also raise awareness of air quality matters with the children and their parents. This action is ongoing and monitoring locations are kept under review and new school sites considered regularly.

2. Installation of electric vehicle charger points throughout Blaenau Gwent.

Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

In 2025 a 22kW charger at Worcester Street Car Park, Brynmawr was upgraded to a 60kW rapid charger in response to resident feedback and increasing demand for rapid charging facilities. Residents reported difficulties accessing an existing privately operated rapid charger in the town due to high utilisation levels. One resident advised that they were often only able to access the charger late in the evening, which was not always convenient and did not always feel safe.

A new 60kW rapid charger was also installed at Red Lion Square Car Park, Tredegar, further improving access to rapid charging infrastructure for residents, businesses and visitors. Once operational, Blaenau Gwent will have at least one publicly accessible rapid charging facility in each of its main towns, helping to improve charging coverage across the county borough.

Previous upgrades from 22kW chargers to 60kW rapid chargers in Ebbw Vale and Abertillery resulted in charging sessions almost doubling compared to the same period the previous year. This demonstrated growing demand for rapid charging infrastructure and highlighted the importance of providing a mix of charging solutions to meet different user needs, including residential, destination and rapid charging.

The Council has also installed charging infrastructure at Mon Calpe Residential Children's Home, Tredegar to support the operation of an electric fleet vehicle. In addition, the charge points installed at the new Glyncoed Primary School, Ebbw Vale are expected to become operational shortly.

On street charging trial

The trial is testing two gully channel solutions: Kerbo Charge and Gul-e by ODS. The trial comprises a total of 14 installations across the county borough seven of each gully channel solution, with the final two sites currently being completed shortly. The Council is also exploring the potential for two additional locations subject to technical feasibility.

The trial has enabled residents without off-street parking to safely charge electric vehicles from their homes whilst maintaining footway accessibility. Feedback from participating residents has been positive and demonstrates the potential role that on-street charging solutions can play in supporting EV adoption in areas where home charging would otherwise not be possible.

The Council is currently undertaking an evaluation of the trial and has identified three potential future delivery options. A report setting out the findings, lessons learnt and options for whether and how a wider rollout could be delivered is due to be presented to Council shortly for consideration.

In curb charger pilot

We are currently delivering the UK's first pilot of innovative Curb Charger technology, which integrates electric vehicle charging infrastructure directly within the kerb.

The pilot follows earlier feasibility work undertaken to identify suitable solutions for residential streets where conventional charging infrastructure is difficult to accommodate. Installations have now been completed at four locations, with a fifth site due to commence shortly. The pilot will ultimately comprise eight sites across the borough, including a mix of terraced residential streets and communal parking areas owned by Tai Calon Housing Association.

The pilot will provide valuable evidence on the suitability of this emerging technology for wider deployment in Wales and across the UK and forms part of the Council's ongoing efforts to identify innovative charging solutions for residents without access to off-street parking.

Rapid Electric vehicle charger hub

We are continuing to progress plans for a flagship rapid EV charging hub in Ebbw Vale.

Delivery of the scheme was delayed due to drainage requirements associated with the development, including the need to obtain approval through the Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) process. The Council is aiming towards delivering the hub before the end of the current financial year. This is being funded through the Local Growth Fund.

Strategic Planning, Behaviour Change and User Insights

We are taking an evidence-led, place-based approach to the rollout of electric vehicle charging infrastructure, ensuring that investment decisions are informed by local needs, demand and barriers to EV adoption.

During the year, we commissioned development of a five-year Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy. The strategy assesses local demand, identifies gaps in current provision and establishes priorities for future delivery. We are currently planning to progress the strategy through the Council's governance process to be presented to Members for consideration and approval.

To better understand the challenges residents face when transitioning to electric vehicles, we have undertaken ULEV behaviour change research and also developed an anonymised EV User and Accessibility Insights Report. This work explored resident experiences, charging behaviours and accessibility requirements to help ensure future infrastructure is designed around the needs of local communities, including those without off-street parking and residents with accessibility requirements.

The findings from this work are being used alongside charge point utilisation data, resident engagement, site assessments and pilot project evaluations to inform future infrastructure investment. This evidence-led approach has helped identify the need for a range of charging solutions, including residential charging, destination charging, rapid charging and innovative on-street technologies, ensuring that infrastructure investment responds to the differing needs of communities across Blaenau Gwent.

The Council has also been invited to lead a regional Ultra Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) Impact Evaluation on behalf of the Cardiff Capital Region local authorities. The purpose of the study is to provide an independent, evidence-based evaluation of ULEV activity delivered across the region since 2019, helping to inform future regional and local decision-making, investment planning, policy development and delivery approaches over the next five years.

The evaluation will capture learning from projects delivered across the region, including Blaenau Gwent's cross-pavement gully channel trial, Curb Charger pilot and wider charging infrastructure programme, alongside experiences and outcomes from other local authorities. The study will assess the effectiveness of previous interventions, identify areas where there is evidence to support wider deployment, and highlight where further trials, investment or policy development may be required. The findings will help shape the future direction of the

ULEV programme across the Cardiff Capital Region and support the continued transition to low-emission transport.

3. Air quality collaboration project which includes the deployment of air quality monitoring sensors in Blaenau Gwent.

As part of a collaboration consisting of Swansea Council, Newport City Council, Monmouthshire CBC, Swansea University and Nottingham University, Blaenau Gwent CBC secured funding from Welsh Government through the LAQM support fund to carry out an air quality project starting in 2025. This project is called Cymru Air Information Service (CAIS), and it involved the deployment of 8 air quality monitoring sensors within Blaenau Gwent which monitor for nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter 2.5. This project will also include the development of an alerting system for the above-mentioned pollutants that members of the public will be able to use. This project is on-going.

2 Air Quality Monitoring Data and Comparison with Air Quality Objectives

2.1 Summary of Monitoring Undertaken in 2025

2.1.1 Automatic Monitoring Sites

Blaenau Gwent CBC does not currently undertake any automatic monitoring of any of the pollutants relevant to the UK National Air Quality Objectives.

2.1.2 Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites

Blaenau Gwent CBC undertook diffusion tube monitoring at 31 sites throughout the Borough during 2025, the details of which are presented in Table 2.1. A map indicating the approximate location of each current monitoring site within the borough is provided in Appendix D and individual maps for each monitoring location is provided in Appendix E to this report.

The diffusion tubes are exposed for four-week periods in accordance with the National NO_2 exposure calendar. Gradko Environmental was used to analyse and provide data from all the NO_2 diffusion tubes within Blaenau Gwent during 2025.

Gradko Environmental used the 50% TEA in Acetone method to prepare the diffusion tubes for analysis and have indicated that they are following the procedures set out in the Harmonisation Practical Guidance. It has also been confirmed that Gradko Environmental demonstrated satisfactory performance in the Air- PT scheme for the period of 2025.

Blaenau Gwent CBC does not currently undertake a co-location study for its NO_2 diffusion tube monitoring, in previous years the ‘National’ bias adjustment factor has been used for the results of the monitoring undertaken during each specific year. The bias adjustment factor for Gradko Environmental for 2025 was 0.92.

A full audit of all monitoring sites used by Blaenau Gwent CBC was undertaken in December 2025. The outcome of the review was the identification of six new monitoring locations listed below, with monitoring starting in January 2026. The results from the new monitoring locations will be reported in the Air Quality Progress Report 2027 for the calendar year of 2026.

New monitoring locations for 2026.

- BGBC-49/ 5 Arnold Place, Tredegar.
- BGBC- 50/ 12 Chartist Way, Tredegar.
- BGBC-51/ 11 Edmunds Close, Blaina.
- BGBC-52/ Halls Buildings 2 Carlyle Street, Abertillery.
- BGBC-53/ 12 Railway Terrace, Nantyglo.
- BGBC-54/ 93 King Street, Brynmawr.

At the end of 2025 diffusion tube monitoring ceased at the below monitoring locations as they had demonstrated compliance with the air quality objective.

- BGBC -13/ 3 Kings Arms Cottages, Trefil, Tredegar.
- BGBC-28/ 1 Coates Row, Rassau, Ebbw Vale.
- BGBC- 29/10 Ivy Close, Rassau, Ebbw Vale.
- BGBC-30/ 8 Annes Court, Ebbw Vale.
- BGBC-41/ 8 Briar Close, Rassau, Ebbw Vale.
- BGBC-43/ 37 Pen Y Craig, Rassau, Ebbw Vale.

Table 2.1 – Details of Non-Automatic Monitoring Sites

Diffusion Tube ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Ref (Easting)	Y OS Grid Ref (Northing)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA? Which AQMA?	Distance to Relevant Exposure (m) (1)	Distance to kerb of nearest road (m) (2)	Tube Co-located with a Continuous Analyser?	Tube Height (m)
BGBC-01	The Darren, Daren-felen Road, Brynmawr	Roadside	319538	211956	NO_2	NO	0	10	No	2
BGBC-04	22 Parkhill, Beaufort, Ebbw Vale	Urban Background	317298	211287	NO_2	NO	10	30	No	2.1
BGBC-05	Willow Tree Bungalow, Aberbeeg	Urban Background	321139	201114	NO_2	NO	0	13	No	2
BGBC-13	3 Kings Arms Cottages, Trefil, Tredegar	Roadside	312012	212782	NO_2	NO	0	4	No	2
BGBC-16	49 Aberbeeg Road, Aberbeeg	Roadside	316670	211597	NO_2	NO	0	7	No	2
BGBC-18	Welfare Hall, Beaufort Hill, Ebbw Vale	Roadside	317543	211688	NO_2	NO	0	4	No	2

Diffusion Tube ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Ref (Easting)	Y OS Grid Ref (Northing)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA? Which AQMA?	Distance to Relevant Exposure (m) (1)	Distance to kerb of nearest road (m) (2)	Tube Co-located with a Continuous Analyser?	Tube Height (m)
BGBC-19	42 Beaufort Rise, Ebbw Vale	Roadside	316670	211597	NO_2	NO	0	4	No	2
BGBC-20	122 Beaufort Road, Tredegar	Roadside	314858	210240	NO_2	NO	0	5	No	2
BGBC-21	14 Bryn Rhosyn, Merthyr Road, Tredegar	Other	312846	210586	NO_2	NO	0	14	No	2
BGBC-22	2 King Street, Brynmawr	Roadside	319562	212128	NO_2	NO	0	11	No	2
BGBC-25	Red Rose Care Centre, Park Road, Ebbw Vale	Roadside	316996	207898	NO_2	NO	0	3	No	2
BGBC-26	2 The Dingle, Ebbw Vale	Roadside	316980	209842	NO_2	NO	0	10	No	2
BGBC-28	1 Coates Row, Rassau, Ebbw Vale	Other	314488	211642	NO_2	NO	0	62	No	2
BGBC-29	10 Ivy Close, Rassau, Ebbw Vale.	Industrial	315331	211938	NO_2	NO	0	N/A	No	2

Diffusion Tube ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Ref (Easting)	Y OS Grid Ref (Northing)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA? Which AQMA?	Distance to Relevant Exposure (m) (1)	Distance to kerb of nearest road (m) (2)	Tube Co-located with a Continuous Analyser?	Tube Height (m)
BGBC-30	8 Annes Court, Ebbw Vale.	Industrial	316010	210183	NO_2	NO	0	N/A	No	2
BGBC-32	Ebbw Fawr Learning Campus, Primary School, Ebbw Vale.	Roadside	317392	208313	NO_2	NO	5	20	No	2
BGBC-34	Georgetown Primary School, Oakfield Road, Tredegar.	Roadside	314838	208257	NO_2	NO	6.4	14	No	2
BGBC-35	Brynbach Primary School, Merthyr Road, Tredegar.	Roadside	313061	210466	NO_2	NO	0	12	No	2
BGBC-36	St Mary's RC Primary School, Catholic Road, Brynmawr.	Roadside	319229	211601	NO_2	NO	0	17	No	2
BGBC-37	Abertillery Learning Campus, Tillery Street, Abertillery.	Roadside	321893	204604	NO_2	NO	7	38	No	2

Diffusion Tube ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Ref (Easting)	Y OS Grid Ref (Northing)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA? Which AQMA?	Distance to Relevant Exposure (m) (1)	Distance to kerb of nearest road (m) (2)	Tube Co-located with a Continuous Analyser?	Tube Height (m)
BGBC-38	Deighton Primary School, Stockton Way, Tredegar.	Roadside	313914	209839	NO_2	NO	0	17	No	2
BGBC-39	Six Bells Primary Campus, Abertillery Learning Community, Six Bells Road, Six Bells, Abertillery,	Roadside	322050	202976	NO_2	NO	8	18	No	2
BGBC-40	1 Waterloo Terrace, Cwm, Ebbw Vale	Roadside	318967	204130	NO_2	NO	0	5	No	2
BGBC-41	8 Briar Close, Rassau, Ebbw Vale.	Industrial	316165	212466	NO_2	NO	0	N/A	No	2
BGBC-42	Rhos Y Fedwen Primary School, Honeyfield Road, Rassau, Ebbw Vale	Roadside	315750	211940	NO_2	NO	0	15	No	2
BGBC-43	37 Pen Y Craig, Rassau, Ebbw Vale	Industrial	315831	212298	NO_2	NO	0	N/A	No	2

Diffusion Tube ID	Site Name	Site Type	X OS Grid Ref (Easting)	Y OS Grid Ref (Northing)	Pollutants Monitored	In AQMA? Which AQMA?	Distance to Relevant Exposure (m) (1)	Distance to kerb of nearest road (m) (2)	Tube Co-located with a Continuous Analyser?	Tube Height (m)
BGBC-44	18 Blue Lake Close, Ebbw Vale	Roadside	315841	210858	NO_2	NO	0	8.1	No	2
BGBC-45	34 Carn y Cefn, Ebbw Vale	Roadside	316195	210795	NO_2	NO	0	2	No	2
BGBC-46	Wood Bank, Park Place, Waunlwyd	Roadside	317795	206719	NO_2	NO	0	3.4	No	2
BGBC-47	12 Alma Street, Abertillery	Roadside	321649	204261	NO_2	NO	0	8.3	No	2
BGBC-48	Blaen Y Cwm Primary School, Brynmawr	Roadside	319103	211426	NO_2	NO	12	4.4	No	2

Notes:

(1) 0m indicates that the sited monitor represents exposure and as such no distance calculation is required.

(2) N/A if not applicable.

2.2 2025 Air Quality Monitoring Results

Table 2.2 – Annual Mean NO_2 Monitoring Results: Non-Automatic Monitoring (µg/m^3)

Diffusion Tube ID	X OS Grid Ref (Easting)	Y OS Grid Ref (Northing)	Site Type	Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period (%) (1)	Valid Data Capture 2025 (%) (2)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
BGBC-01	319538	211956	Roadside	100	100	12.0	13.4	13.0	12.1	13.2
BGBC-04	317298	211287	Urban Background	100	100	5.8	5.5	5.0	4.7	5.0
BGBC-05	321139	201114	Urban Background	100	100	9.9	10.2	9.3	9.0	9.1
BGBC-13	312012	212782	Roadside	92.3	92.3	3.8	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.3
BGBC-16	316670	211597	Roadside	100	100	14.8	15.9	14.2	13.1	13.4
BGBC-18	317543	211688	Roadside	100	100	12.3	11.5	10.5	8.9	9.7
BGBC-19	316670	211597	Roadside	100	100	16.1	15.9	14.4	13.1	11.7
BGBC-20	314858	210240	Roadside	100	100	17.3	18.5	17.4	15.5	16.3
BGBC-21	312846	210586	Other	100	100	9.2	9.8	9.8	9.4	9.3

Diffusion Tube ID	X OS Grid Ref (Easting)	Y OS Grid Ref (Northing)	Site Type	Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period (%) (1)	Valid Data Capture 2025 (%) (2)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
BGBC-22	319562	212128	Roadside	100	100	9.9	12.4	10.2	9.7	9.9
BGBC-25	316996	207898	Roadside	100	100	8.8	10.8	8.6	7.7	8.3
BGBC-26	316980	209842	Roadside	100	100	11.0	9.2	10.9	9.9	8.9
BGBC-28	314488	211642	Other	100	100	6.6	6.2	5.5	5.2	5.9
BGBC-29	315331	211938	Industrial	92.3	92.3	5.8	6.0	5.0	5.0	5.1
BGBC-30	316010	210183	Industrial	100	100	6.2	6.6	6.1	5.6	5.9
BGBC-32	317392	208313	Roadside	92.3	92.3	6.5	6.8	6.6	6.3	5.8
BGBC-34	314838	208257	Roadside	100	100	6.5	6.3	5.7	5.0	5.4
BGBC-35	313061	210466	Roadside	75	75	8.2	8.7	7.7	6.5	8.0
BGBC-36	319229	211601	Roadside	100	100	8.7	9.0	9.1	8.4	8.7

Diffusion Tube ID	X OS Grid Ref (Easting)	Y OS Grid Ref (Northing)	Site Type	Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period (%) (1)	Valid Data Capture 2025 (%) (2)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
BGBC-37	321893	204604	Roadside	75	75	5.9	6.7	6.4	6.6	6.2
BGBC-38	313914	209839	Roadside	90.4	90.4	6.8	7.4	6.5	5.7	6.0
BGBC-39	322050	202976	Roadside	82.7	82.7	7.9	7.8	7.2	7.1	7.1
BGBC-40	318967	204130	Roadside	100	100	n/a	16.8	15.0	15.3	15.2
BGBC-41	316165	212466	Industrial	100	100	n/a	5.9	4.8	4.6	5.2
BGBC-42	315750	211940	Roadside	100	100	n/a	n/a	n/a	5.6	6.1
BGBC-43	315831	212298	Industrial	100	100	n/a	n/a	n/a	5.3	5.9
BGBC-44	315841	210858	Roadside	100	100	n/a	n/a	n/a	8.3	9.2
BGBC-45	316195	210795	Roadside	100	100	n/a	n/a	n/a	8.0	9.1
BGBC-46	317795	206719	Roadside	92.3	92.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	10.6

Diffusion Tube ID	X OS Grid Ref (Easting)	Y OS Grid Ref (Northing)	Site Type	Valid Data Capture for Monitoring Period (%) (1)	Valid Data Capture 2025 (%) (2)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
BGBC-47	321649	204261	Roadside	100	100	**n/a**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**n/a**	13.3
BGBC-48	319103	211426	Roadside	82.7	82.7	**n/a**	**n/a**	**n/a**	**n/a**	8.3

☒ **Annualisation has been conducted where data capture is <75% and >25% in line with LAQM.TG22 .**

☒ **Diffusion tube data has been bias adjusted .**

☒ **Reported concentrations are those at the location of the monitoring site (bias adjusted and annualised, as required), i.e. prior to any fall-off with distance correction.**

Notes:

The annual mean concentrations are presented as µg/m^3.

Exceedances of the NO_2 annual mean objective of 40µg/m^3 are shown in **bold**.

NO_2 annual means exceeding 60µg/m^3, indicating a potential exceedance of the NO_2 1-hour mean objective are shown in **bold and underlined**.

Means for diffusion tubes have been corrected for bias. All means have been “annualised” as per LAQM.TG22 if valid data capture for the full calendar year is less than 75%. See Appendix C for details.

Concentrations are those at the location of monitoring and not those following any fall-off with distance adjustment.

(1) Data capture for the monitoring period, in cases where monitoring was only carried out for part of the year.

(2) Data capture for the full calendar year (e.g. if monitoring was carried out for 6 months, the maximum data capture for the full calendar year is 50%).

Figure 1: Measured levels of Nitrogen Dixode in 2025 compared with the Air Quality Objective

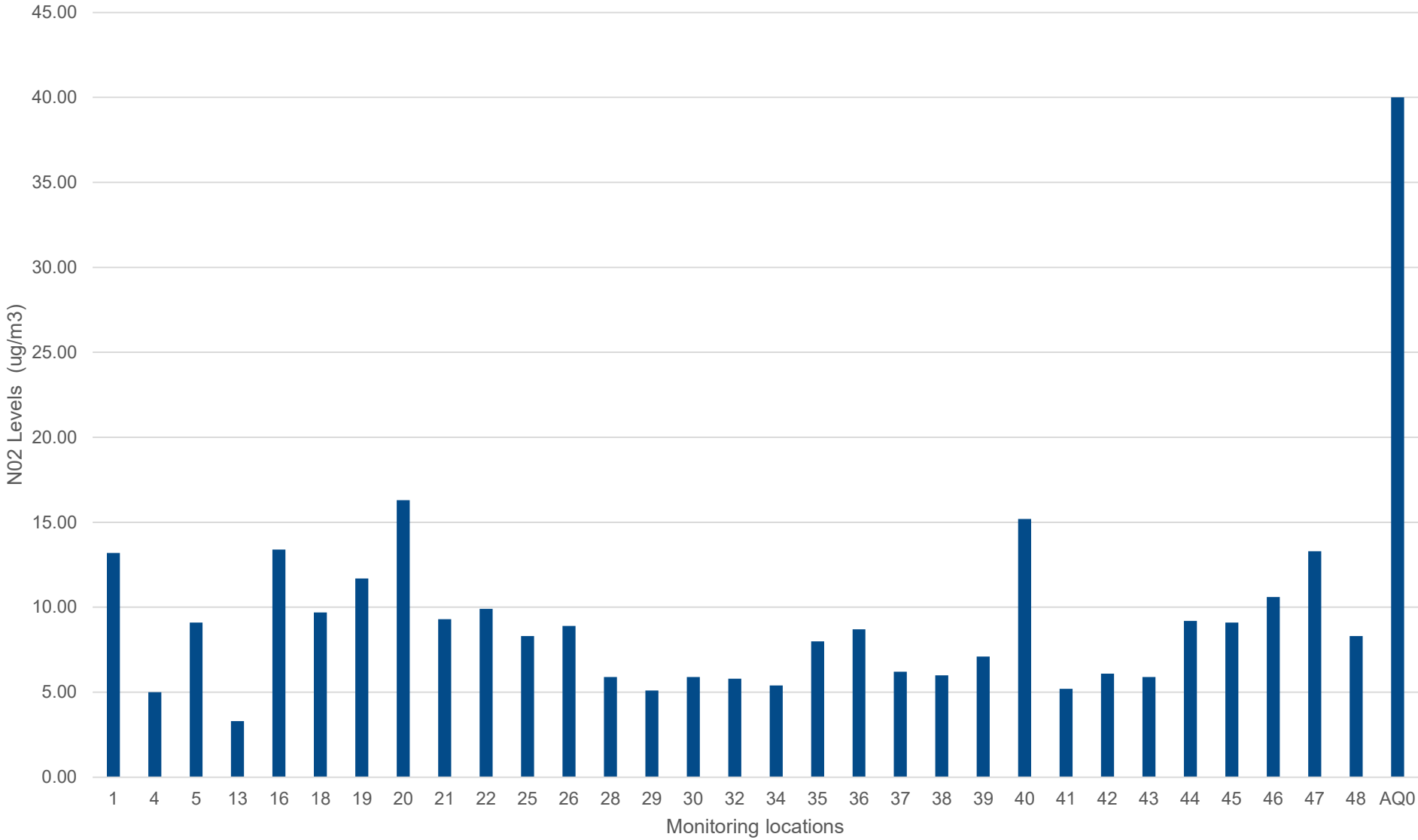
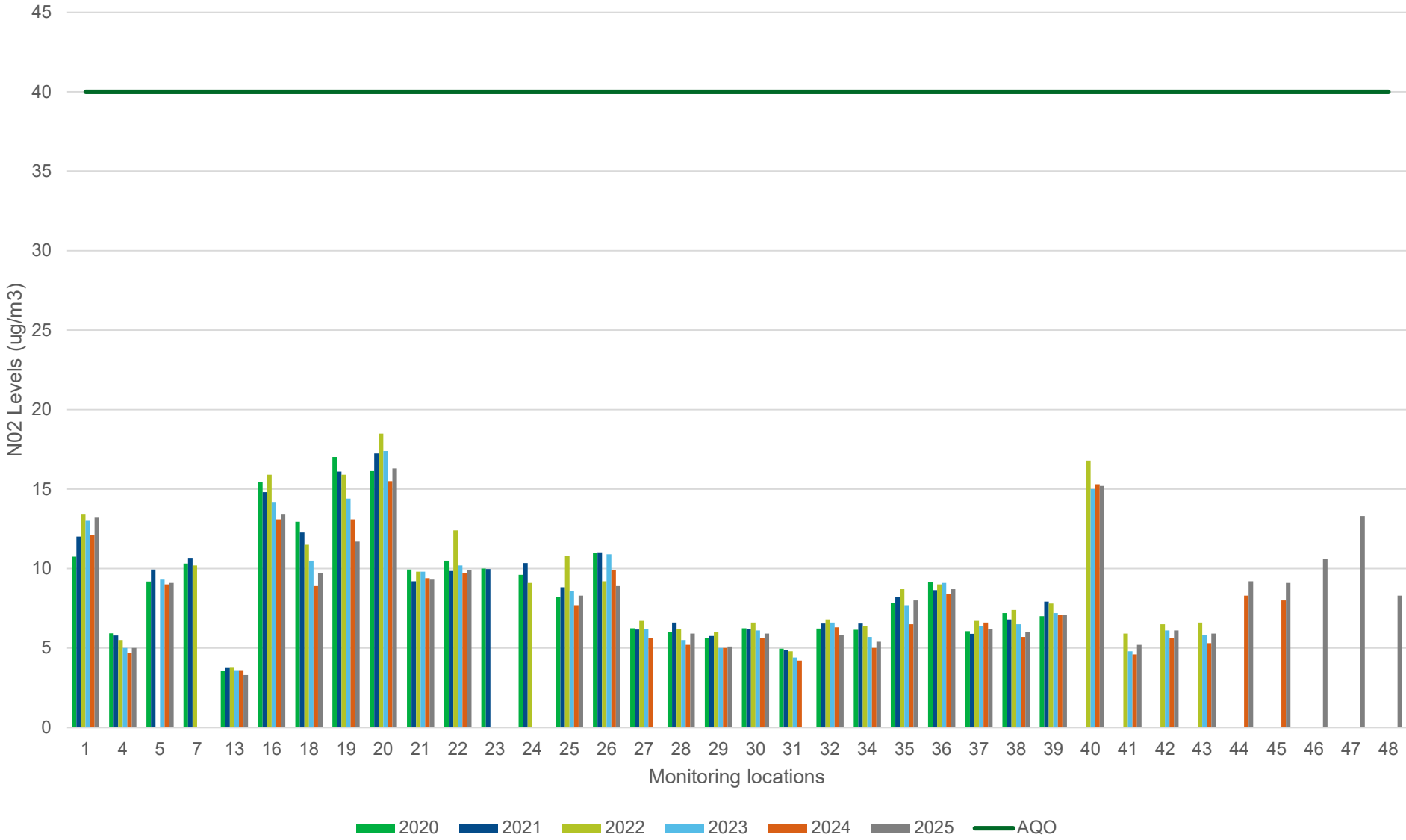


Figure 2: Measured levels of Nitrogen Dioxide from 2020 to 2025 compared with the Air Quality Objective



2.3 Comparison of 2025 Monitoring Results with Previous Years and the Air Quality Objectives

2.3.1 Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_2)

Blaenau Gwent CBC does not currently undertake any automatic monitoring for nitrogen dioxide.

Diffusion Tube Monitoring Data

A summary of the results obtained from the Nitrogen Dioxide diffusion monitoring undertaken at the 31 sites within the Borough for the period of 2025 is presented in Table 2.2. Full details of the monthly mean values for each site are provided in Appendix A to this report.

None of the results from the diffusion tube monitoring are based on triplicate or collocated tubes, the results are based on 12 months' worth of data for the calendar year 2025, none of the data has been annualised.

All the diffusion tube monitoring results at all the monitoring locations for 2025 are below the air quality objective for Nitrogen Dioxide.

Table 2.2 also provides a comparison of the results for the period of 2025 with the results of previous years monitoring (where available) for the years 2021 - 2025. Figure 2 provides a comparison of the results from 2020 -2025. The 2025 results identify that there has been an increase in the measured levels of nitrogen dioxide at twenty out of the twenty-eight monitoring locations when directly compared with the 2024 levels. Most of the increases were marginal. Seven monitoring locations recorded decreases in results when compared to the previous year’s monitoring results with one monitoring location (BGBC-39) remaining the same. Of the twenty-four monitoring locations that were active in both 2023 and 2025 the results were lower in seventeen locations in the 2025 results when they were directly compared with the 2023 levels. These results confirm that all our monitoring locations continue to be substantially lower than the air quality objective for Nitrogen Dioxide.

2.3.2 Particulate Matter (PM_{10})

Blaenau Gwent CBC does not currently undertake any monitoring for particulate matter (PM_{10}).

2.3.3 Particulate Matter ($PM_{2.5}$)

Blaenau Gwent CBC does not currently undertake any monitoring for particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$).

2.3.4 Other Pollutants Monitored

Blaenau Gwent CBC does not currently undertake any monitoring for any other pollutants.

Summary of Compliance with AQS Objectives as of 2025

Blaenau Gwent CBC has examined the results from monitoring in the borough. Concentrations are all below the Objectives, therefore no further action is required.

3 New Local Developments

Road Traffic Sources (and Other Transport)

Blaenau Gwent CBC confirms that there are no new/ newly identified narrow congested streets with residential properties close to the kerb or busy streets where people may spend one hour or more close to traffic. Also, there are no new/newly identified roads with high flows of buses and/or HGVs.

Blaenau Gwent CBC confirms that there are no new/newly identified busy junctions or roads with significantly changed traffic flows within the local authority area. Also, there are no new bus stations within the local authority area.

Industrial / Fugitive or Uncontrolled Sources / Commercial Sources

Blaenau Gwent CBC confirms that there are no other new or proposed industrial installations for which an air quality assessment has been carried out and there are no existing industrial installations where emissions have increased substantially, or new relevant exposure has been introduced. Blaenau Gwent CBC also confirms that there are no new or significantly changed installations with no previous air quality assessment within the local authority area.

Blaenau Gwent CBC confirms that there are no major fuel (petrol) storage depots, no new petrol stations or no poultry farms with the local authority area.

Blaenau Gwent CBC confirms that there are no new potential sources of fugitive or uncontrolled particulate matter, new landfill sites, quarries, unmade haulage roads on industrial sites or waste transfer stations within the local authority area.

Blaenau Gwent CBC confirms that there has been no new biomass combustion plant or combined heat and power plant within our area, as outlined above, and there are no areas of significant domestic solid fuel burning within the local authority area.

Other Sources

Blaenau Gwent CBC confirms that there are no new or newly identified local developments which may have an impact on air quality within the Local Authority area.

Blaenau Gwent CBC confirms that all the following have been considered:

- Road traffic sources
- Other transport sources
- Industrial sources
- Commercial and domestic sources
- New developments with fugitive or uncontrolled sources.

Blaenau Gwent CBC confirms that there were no significant pollution incidents in 2025 that affected public health or resulted in high air pollution. There are multiple organised fireworks displays within our borough in November each year, but they have not caused high air pollution events that we are aware of. There was not a significant increase in the number of enquires or complaints about wood burners in 2025.

In August 2025 there was a large wildfire at Clydach Dingle, Brynmawr on open land, an emergency was declared but no air quality monitoring was carried out specifically for the situation.

Planning Applications

Each planning application is judged on its merits and due regard is given to the Planning Policy Wales document regarding Air Quality published by the Welsh Government, and other relevant guidance.

A link to the Local Development Plan (LDP) is available at-

http://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/en/resident/planning/

The Planning Division classify applications that are received into minor and major developments in accordance with the Welsh Office Planning Statistics guidance. Major developments are classified as being the following:

- major dwelling is 10 or more dwellings or if an outline application 0.5 hectares
- For other types of applications major equates to 1000m^2 floor area or 1 hectare if the application is in outline

Table 3.1: Applications for Major Developments Received and Approved During 2025

Planning Reference	Type of development	Location	Potential Impact on Local Air Quality
P/2025/0017	Residential development	Land at Cwmrhydderch Court, Cwm, Ebbw Vale, Blaenau Gwent	Low
P/2022/0171	Minerals application	Extension to Trefil Quarry, Trefil, Tredegar, Blaenau Gwent.	Low
P/2025/0336	Residential development	Land Of The Former County Hotel Western Terrace, Ebbw Vale, Blaenau Gwent	Low
P/2025/0137	Industrial units	Development Site Adjacent to Unit 2, Heads of the Valleys Hub Crown Avenue, Dukestown, Tredegar, Blaenau Gwent	Low

Our planning division also approved planning permission for the installation of ten electric vehicle charger points in Blaenau Gwent in 2025. Nine of which where at residential properties and one at a fuel service station.

4 Policies and Strategies Affecting Airborne Pollution

Local / Regional Air Quality Strategy

Blaenau Gwent CBC has a Departmental Air Pollution Control Policy and Procedure document to facilitate the management of Air Quality with the Borough.

Blaenau Gwent CBC has not developed an air quality strategy as all the results at our monitoring locations are significantly below the air quality standards. However, we have recently secured funding from Welsh Government to develop an air quality strategy to help raise awareness of air quality in Blaenau Gwent. It is proposed that the strategy will include a public consultation and be finalised in 2027.

Blaenau Gwent CBC actively participates in the work of the Welsh Air Quality Forum which assists in co-ordinating the management of Air Quality at an all-Wales level amongst the 22 Local Authorities and other partners.

Further information regarding the work of the Welsh Air Quality Forum is available at

http://www.welshairquality.co.uk/

Air Quality Planning Policies

Blaenau Gwent CBC does not have a specific air quality planning policy however it is outlined as a development management policy within the Local Development Plan that ‘the proposal does not result in airborne emissions which have an unacceptable effect on the health, amenity or natural environment of the surrounding area, taking into account cumulative effects of other proposed or existing sources of air pollution in the vicinity.’

Local Transport Plans and Strategies

In June 2022, the requirement for local authorities to produce a Local Transport Plan (LTP) was transferred to the four regional CJC's (Corporate Joint Committee) by the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021. The Act established four CJCs in Wales: North, Mid, South West and South East Wales. The Cardiff Capital Region (CCR) has developed a Regional Transport Plan (RTP) for 2026 – 2031 that will help address current and future local and regional transport issues, by providing the framework for decisions on investment in the future.

To see the CCR Regional Transport Plan for South East Wales please click here:

Regional Transport - Cardiff Capital Region

One of the aims of the Plan is to improve air quality.

Active Travel Plans and Strategies

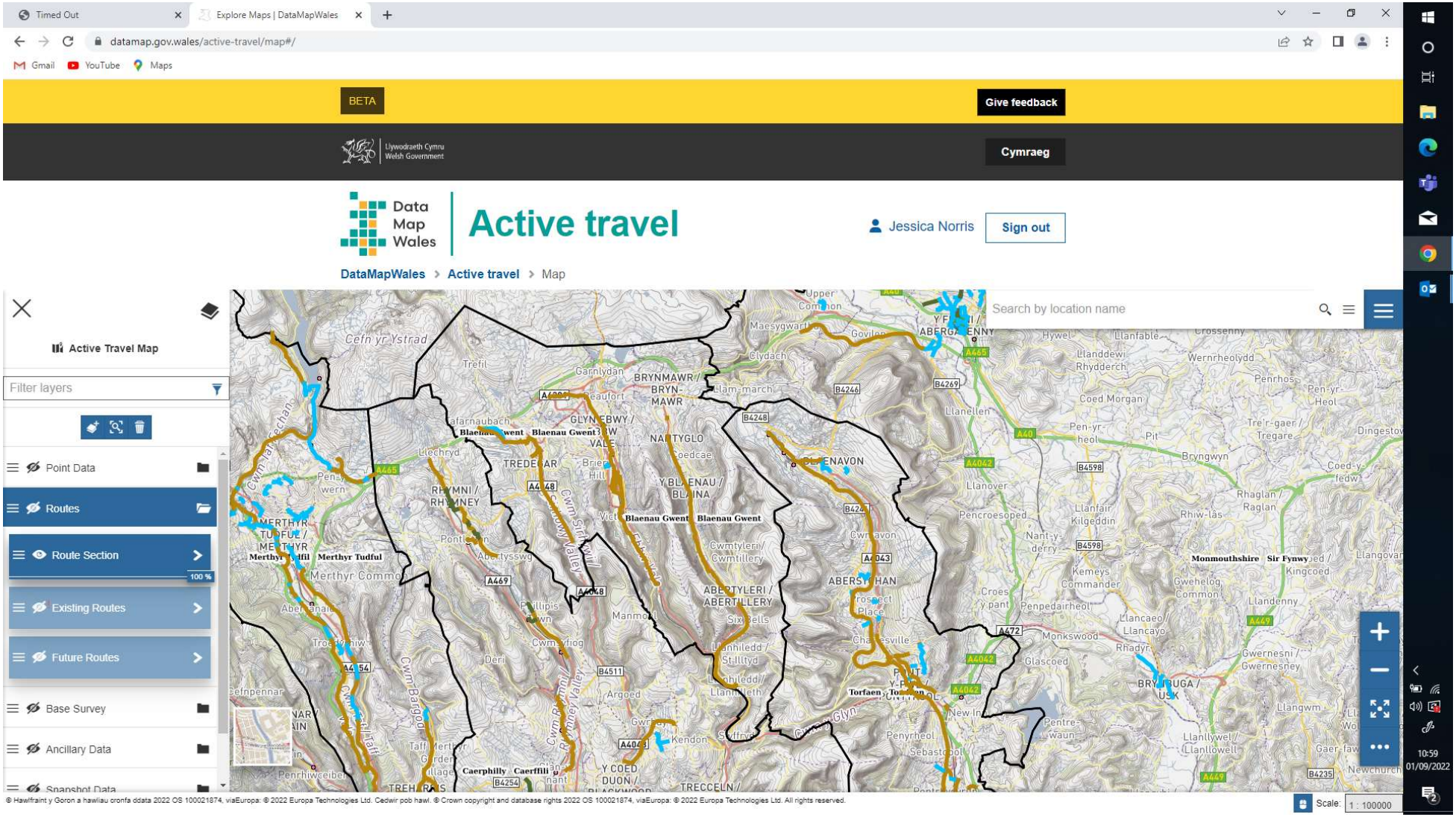
In 2022 Blaenau Gwent CBC updated its Active Travel Network Map (ATNM), which expanded on the previous edition (previously referred to as the INM). The updated ATNM was approved by Welsh Government in August 2022. The routes shown on the below maps have been prioritised (short, medium and long term) and Blaenau Gwent CBC will improve these routes to increase active travel connectivity throughout the borough and reduce the reliance on cars for short purposeful journeys. Below are the maps from 2017 and 2022 to show the comparison of the network between the two editions and the location of the proposed routes:

Blaenau Gwent CBC successfully bid for grant funding from the Welsh Government Active Travel Fund to improve some of its routes and projects in 2025/26. This included-

- the extension of the active travel route in Glyncoed, Ebbw Vale.
- Active travel improvements at Newall Street, Abertillery, including installation of dropped kerbs

- New refuge island and crossing at The Promenade, Tredegar
- Footpath widening near Glanhowy School, Tredegar
- Continuation of feasibility studies and design for active travel improvements along the A467 Corridor between Brynmawr and Blaina
- Outline design, public consultation and associated surveys for the School Network Development Plan in Georgetown, Tredegar
- BGCBC is currently out to public consultation on its Active Travel Network Map to review existing network since latest map was produced in 2022. A link to the survey can be found here: Active Travel Network Map Consultation | Get Involved Blaenau Gwent
- There are several schemes that are currently being proposed for implementation in 2026/27 to improve routes to make walking and cycling safer and easier for residents and visitors of Blaenau Gwent. Progress on these schemes will be reported in the Air Quality Progress Report 2027.

INM 2017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Jessica Norris
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Active Travel Map
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Routes
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Future Routes
Base Survey
Ancillary Data
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Merthyr Tudful
Caerphilly
Monmouthshire
Scale: 1 : 100000
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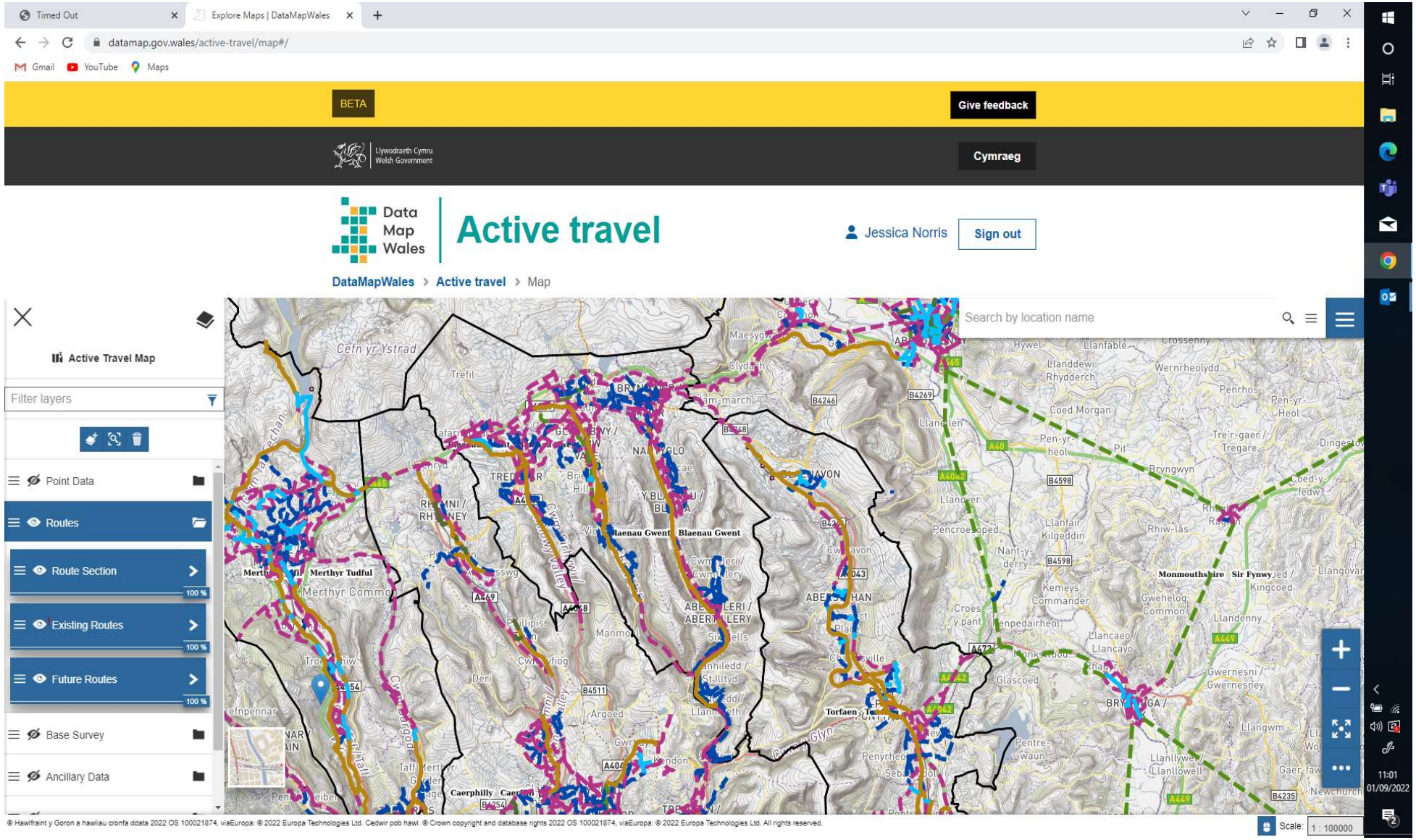
01/09/2022

ATNM 2022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Give feedback
Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government
Cymraeg
Data Map Wales
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Jessica Norris
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DataMapWales
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Map
Active Travel Map
Filter layers
Point Data
Routes
Route Section
Existing Routes
Future Routes
Base Survey
Ancillary Data
Search by location name
Blaenau Gwent
Merthyr Tudful
Caerphilly
Monmouthshire
Sir Fynwy
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01/09/2022

Local Authorities Well-being Objectives

Air quality was considered as part of the local well-being assessment carried out by the Blaenau Gwent Public Service Board which has resulted in well-being objective number 3 being introduced which is- “Blaenau Gwent wants to look after and protect its natural environments.” The key steps identified by the Blaenau Gwent Public Services Board in order to meet this objective include-

- Lead on taking action against climate change through the delivery of a carbon positive project.
- Promote active travel to reduce our collective carbon footprint.
- Make Blaenau Gwent a cleaner, greener place where nature can thrive.

Green Infrastructure Plans and Strategies

Working collaboratively, the 5 local Authorities in Greater Gwent (Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen, Monmouthshire, Caerphilly and Newport) along with partners in the private and third sector have continued to deliver on the *Gwent Green Grid Partnership* (GGGP). Since its launch in 2020, the partnership has been driving forward efforts to enhance the region’s natural environment. It is helping to develop resilient ecological networks across Gwent—connecting habitats, improving biodiversity, and strengthening the landscape’s ability to adapt to climate change.

With additional investment from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, the partnership is delivering a wide range of projects aimed at:

- Raising awareness of the climate and nature emergencies
- Enhancing the quality of green spaces in urban and rural areas
- Strengthening environmental resilience for both wildlife and people

The fourth round of the Nature Networks Fund, delivered by the National Lottery Heritage Fund on behalf of the Welsh Government, has awarded a development grant of £250, 000 to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council (BGCBC) who are working in partnership with Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and in collaboration with Gwent Green Grid to design and

develop resilient ecological networks with partners and stakeholders across Gwent. This includes understanding the value of our ecosystems and the benefits they provide for both people and nature.

Building on the Gwent Levels RENs approach (NRW Evidence Report No. 855) and following the NRW Practitioners' Guide to Resilient Ecological Networks, we will over the next two years (April 2025 – March 2027) continue to deliver across our 6 distinct landscapes in Gwent:

- Ecosystem services assessments and the value of biodiversity across wellbeing
- Understanding the drivers, pressures, impact and response (DPSIR) for natures recovery
- An understanding of the future trends that ensures we are planning and making decisions that considers long term
- Mapped RENs with core and nature recovery zones for targeted priority action
- Shared visions, objectives and priority nature recovery actions to 2030 and beyond
- Revised Landscape Profiles, building on our SE Area Statement evidence codeveloped by partners in Gwent, integrating evidence locally and nationally including NRW's SONARR2025 and used to inform next round of PSB Wellbeing Assessments & Plans, Local Nature Recovery Action Plans, development and management plans
- Performance indicators and framework so that we can monitor and evaluate our progress towards a shared vision for nature and people to 2030 and beyond

The Local Nature Partnership has played a key role in guiding funding towards the Local Places for Nature programme, which has supported targeted grassland and woodland management initiatives. These habitats are essential for improving air quality, as they enhance natural processes that filter and absorb pollutants. Well-managed grasslands function as carbon sinks, capturing carbon dioxide through photosynthesis and storing it in plant biomass and soil. They also help reduce airborne pollutants by trapping dust and particulate matter. Likewise, woodlands with diverse and healthy tree cover absorb carbon dioxide and other harmful gases such as nitrogen oxides, while also releasing oxygen and intercepting airborne particles on their leaves and bark. Through the Local Places for Nature programme, strategic management practices have been implemented, including maintaining sward diversity via adjusted cutting regimes, increasing plant diversity through targeted planting and appropriate management, and controlling invasive species. These efforts help sustain the ecological integrity of these habitats and reinforce their role in air purification and climate regulation.

Climate Change Strategies

Blaenau Gwent CBC has developed a decarbonisation plan detailing how we aim to be carbon neutral by 2030. The plan can be accessed via the link to the Blaenau Gwent CBC website below. An example of a practical implementation of this plan is the purchase and use of electric vehicles in our highways department.

https://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/en/council/policies-plans-strategies/decarbonisation-plan-2020-2030/

Blaenau Gwent CBC has also recently approved a new net zero 2050 framework which sets out how it could move forward and work with local partners and communities to reduce Blaenau Gwent ‘s carbon emissions and achieve Net Zero by 2050. Further information on this can be accesses via the link to the Blaenau Gwent CBC website below.

Net Zero 2050 | Blaenau Gwent CBC

Blaenau Gwent CBC is also continuing to install electric vehicle charging points at locations throughout the borough and has been trialling on street charging solutions using funding provided by Welsh Government. Further information on this work can be accessed via the link to the Blaenau Gwent CBC website below.

Electric Vehicle Charging | Blaenau Gwent CBC

5 Conclusion and Proposed Actions

Conclusions from New Monitoring Data

Blaenau Gwent CBC has examined the results from monitoring in the Borough of Blaenau Gwent for the period of 2025. Concentrations are all below the relevant UK National Air Quality Objectives.

Conclusions relating to New Local Developments

Blaenau Gwent CBC has assessed all new or significantly changed sources in the Borough and relevant new or significantly changes sources in nearby Local Authority areas and has concluded that it is unlikely that the impact of these will result in a potential exceedance of any of the UK National Air Quality Objectives within the Borough.

Other Conclusions

This report has not identified the need to proceed to a Detailed Assessment for any pollutant relevant to the UK National Air Quality Objectives.

Proposed Actions

Blaenau Gwent CBC will continue to monitor for Nitrogen Dioxide subject to the continuous review and assessment of the existing and newly identified monitoring sites for the calendar year of 2026.

It is proposed that the results of monitoring carried out during the calendar year of 2026 will be presented in the 2027 Air Quality Progress Report which will be prepared as part of the Updating and Screening Assessment process.

References

Blaenau Gwent CBC, all previous reports produced as part of the air quality review process. https://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/en/resident/environmental-health/pollution/air-quality/

Blaenau Gwent CBC, Decarbonisation plan 2020-30. https://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/en/council/policies-plans-strategies/decarbonisation-plan-2020-2030/

https://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/en/news/council-continues-planning-for-a-net-zero-borough/

Blaenau Gwent Net Zero 2025

Net Zero 2050 | Blaenau Gwent CBC

Blaenau Gwent CBC, update on electric vehicle charging points in the borough

Electric Vehicle Charging | Blaenau Gwent CBC

DEFRA, (2022), Local Air Quality Management - Technical Guidance LAQM.TG(22), DEFRA.- https://laqm.defra.gov.uk/air-quality/featured/uk-regions-exc-london-technical-guidance/

Active Travel Network Map Consultation | Get Involved Blaenau Gwent

Regional Transport - Cardiff Capital Region

Air PT Scheme results for Laboratory- https://laqm.defra.gov.uk/air-quality/air-quality-assessment/qa-qc-framework/

National Bias Adjustment Factors- https://laqm.defra.gov.uk/air-quality/air-quality-assessment/national-bias/

Green Infrastructure Plans and Strategies

NRW Practitioners' Guide to Resilient Ecological Networks

Landscape Profiles

SE Area Statement

SONARR2025

Wellbeing Assessments

Appendices

Appendix A: Monthly Diffusion Tube Monitoring Results

Appendix B: A Summary of Local Air Quality Management

Appendix C: Air Quality Monitoring Data QA/QC

Appendix D: Blaenau Gwent CBC boundary area and diffusion tube location plan

Appendix E: Individual location plans for all diffusion tubes within Blaenau Gwent for 2025

Appendix A: Quality Assurance / Quality Control (QA/QC) Data

Table A.1 – Full Monthly Diffusion Tube Results for 2025 (µg/m^3)

DT ID	X OS Grid Ref (Easting)	Y OS Grid Ref (Northing)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Mean: Raw Data	Annual Mean: Annualised and Bias Adjusted	Annual Mean: Distance Corrected to Nearest Exposure	Comment
BGBC-01	319538	211956	19.1	16.6	19.7	19.4	17.8	8.6	6.9	14.7	11.4	12.1	14.8	11.6	14.4	13.2		
BGBC-04	317298	211287	8.6	6.9	6.5	5.5	3.3	3.5	2.9	3.5	5.0	5.7	7.2	6.2	5.4	5.0		
BGBC-05	321139	201114	9.9	12.8	14.0	12.3	7.8	6.5	6.0	8.4	8.4	10.0	11.5	11.8	9.9	9.1		
BGBC-13	312012	212782	4.9	5.4	5.1	4.2	2.0	2.6	1.7	x	3.0	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.3		
BGBC-16	316670	211597	24.2	13.3	13.8	12.0	9.7	16.2	10.5	12.0	13.5	14.8	18.2	16.1	14.5	13.4		
BGBC-18	317543	211688	10.5	13.7	14.0	12.0	7.9	8.1	7.0	8.4	9.3	11.0	12.8	11.8	10.5	9.7		
BGBC-19	316670	211597	21.0	19.7	17.6	18.3	12.6	11.4	8.8	8.2	7.6	8.5	4.1	15.5	12.8	11.7		
BGBC-20	314858	210240	22.3	21.8	21.3	21.6	16.5	15.9	11.8	15.6	11.9	16.3	19.9	17.8	17.7	16.3		
BGBC-21	312846	210586	14.7	11.8	11.0	11.7	8.5	7.5	7.7	9.0	8.8	10.0	10.3	9.9	10.1	9.3		
BGBC-22	319562	212128	15.5	14.5	14.7	13.9	9.7	7.2	6.0	8.9	6.7	10.1	12.2	10.3	10.8	9.9		
BGBC-25	316996	207898	11.5	10.4	10.4	10.9	8.0	6.3	5.9	7.5	8.8	9.3	10.6	8.2	9.0	8.3		
BGBC-26	316980	209842	14.9	12.7	11.7	8.2	5.4	5.7	5.8	6.1	7.8	9.7	15.5	12.7	9.7	8.9		
BGBC-28	314488	211642	7.4	8.5	8.3	6.9	4.9	4.2	4.2	5.8	7.1	5.6	7.2	6.4	6.4	5.9		
BGBC-29	315331	211938	7.6	8.2	8.1	x	3.8	3.2	3.3	4.2	5.3	5.1	6.7	5.5	5.6	5.1		
BGBC-30	316010	210183	9.0	8.7	9.0	7.5	5.1	3.8	3.8	5.2	5.2	6.3	7.4	6.6	6.5	5.9		

DT ID	X OS Grid Ref (Easting)	Y OS Grid Ref (Northing)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Mean: Raw Data	Annual Mean: Annualised and Bias Adjusted	Annual Mean: Distance Corrected to Nearest Exposure	Comment
BGBC-32	317392	208313	x	7.9	9.1	7.4	3.7	4.2	3.9	4.3	6.0	6.6	8.3	7.6	6.3	5.8		
BGBC-34	314838	208257	9.0	8.0	8.3	6.5	3.2	3.7	3.0	3.9	5.1	5.5	7.5	7.2	5.9	5.4		
BGBC-35	313061	210466	x	13.1	11.8	9.4	7.4	x	3.1	7.6	7.6	x	10.0	7.9	8.7	8.0		
BGBC-36	319229	211601	12.5	13.4	10.6	10.7	7.3	7.3	5.7	5.4	11.1	7.5	11.9	10.1	9.5	8.7		
BGBC-37	321893	204604	9.2	x	7.9	6.0	3.6	3.6	x	x	6.3	6.2	9.2	8.4	6.7	6.2		
BGBC-38	313914	209839	10.8	8.6	8.7	7.5	4.2	4.1	3.8	4.6	6.3	5.9	7.4	x	6.5	6.0		
BGBC-39	322050	202976	x	13.2	10.3	8.7	4.1	4.0	4.5	5.3	4.5	x	11.4	10.9	7.7	7.1		
BGBC-40	318967	204130	13.8	17.0	19.2	18.5	16.8	15.0	12.0	17.9	16.7	18.1	17.7	15.5	16.5	15.2		
BGBC-41	316165	212466	9.1	6.2	6.5	5.4	3.1	3.8	3.6	4.4	5.3	5.8	7.3	6.8	5.6	5.2		
BGBC-42	315750	211940	8.2	8.6	9.4	7.6	4.7	3.8	3.5	4.5	5.8	5.9	9.1	8.1	6.6	6.1		
BGBC-43	315831	212298	10.2	6.4	7.8	6.5	3.6	4.2	4.7	4.9	6.3	6.8	7.4	7.8	6.4	5.9		
BGBC-44	315841	210858	11.0	14.1	12.5	12.5	9.0	5.6	6.3	7.7	7.7	9.5	12.1	12.4	10.0	9.2		
BGBC-45	316195	210795	13.2	12.8	10.8	11.7	9.0	5.8	6.5	7.9	10.9	9.7	11.6	8.8	9.9	9.1		
BGBC-46	317795	206719	12.6	13.6	14.9	12.5	9.6	7.2	6.8	x	16.2	10.1	12.8	11.1	11.6	10.6		
BGBC-47	321649	204261	20.0	17.2	15.1	13.1	13.0	9.7	12.6	11.9	15.5	15.3	17.2	13.5	14.5	13.3		
BGBC-48	319103	211426	11.8	12.3	11.4	9.1	5.4	5.2	x	x	8.7	7.3	10.6	8.9	9.1	8.3		

☒ **All erroneous data has been removed from the NO_2 diffusion tube dataset presented in Table A.1.**

☒ **Annualisation has been conducted where data capture is <75% and >25% in line with LAQM.TG22.**

☐ **Local bias adjustment factor used.**

☒ **National bias adjustment factor used.**

☒ **Where applicable, data has been distance corrected for relevant exposure in the final column.**

☒ **Blaenau Gwent CBC confirm that all 2025 diffusion tube data has been uploaded to the Diffusion Tube Data Entry System.**

Notes:

Exceedances of the NO_2 annual mean objective of 40µg/m^3 are shown in **bold**.

NO_2 annual means exceeding 60µg/m^3, indicating a potential exceedance of the NO_2 1-hour mean objective are shown in **bold and underlined**.

See Appendix C for details on bias adjustment and annualisation.

X = missing diffusion tube

Appendix B: A Summary of Local Air Quality Management

Purpose of an Annual Progress Report

This report fulfils the requirements of the Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) process as set out in the Environment Act 1995, as amended by the Environment Act 2021, and associated government guidance. The LAQM process places an obligation on all local authorities to regularly review and assess air quality in their areas and to determine whether or not the air quality objectives are being achieved. Where exceedances occur, or are likely to occur, the local authority must then declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and prepare an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) within 18 months of declaration setting out the measures it intends to put in place in pursuit of the objectives. Action plans must then be reviewed and updated no later than every five years; or if a local authority considers there is a need for further or different measures to be taken in order to achieve air quality standards; or if significant changes to sources occur within your local area.

For Local Authorities in Wales, an Annual Progress Report replaces all other formal reporting requirements and have a very clear purpose of updating the general public on air quality, including what ongoing actions are being taken locally to improve it if necessary.

Air Quality Objectives

The air quality objectives applicable to LAQM in Wales are set out in the Air Quality (Wales) Regulations 2000, No. 1940 (Wales 138), Air Quality (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2002, No 3182 (Wales 298), and are shown in Table B.1.

The table shows the objectives in units of microgrammes per cubic metre μg/m^3 (milligrammes per cubic metre, mg/m^3 for carbon monoxide) with the number of exceedances in each year that are permitted (where applicable).

Table B.1 – Air Quality Objectives Included in Regulations for the Purpose of LAQM in Wales

Pollutant	Air Quality Objective: Concentration	Air Quality Objective: Measured as	Date to be achieved by
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_2)	200µg/m^3 not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1-hour mean	31.12.2005
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_2)	40µg/m^3	Annual mean	31.12.2005
Particulate Matter (PM_{10})	50µg/m^3, not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	24-hour mean	31.12.2010
Particulate Matter (PM_{10})	40µg/m^3	Annual mean	31.12.2010
Sulphur dioxide (SO_2)	350µg/m^3, not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year	1-hour mean	31.12.2004
Sulphur dioxide (SO_2)	125µg/m^3, not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year	24-hour mean	31.12.2004
Sulphur dioxide (SO_2)	266µg/m^3, not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	15-minute mean	31.12.2005
Benzene	16.25µg/m^3	Running annual mean	31.12.2003
Benzene	5µg/m^3	Annual mean	31 12 2010
1,3 Butadiene	2.25µg/m^3	Running annual mean	31.12.2003
Carbon Monoxide	10.0mg/m^3	Maximum Daily Running 8-Hour mean	31.12.2003
Lead	0.25µg/m^3	Annual Mean	31.12.2008

Appendix C: Air Quality Monitoring Data QA/QC

QA/QC of Diffusion Tube Monitoring

- Gradko Environmental provided and analysed all our diffusion tubes in 2025 using the 50% TEA in Acetone method. They demonstrated satisfactory performance in the Air PT scheme.
- The same diffusion tube supplier (Gradko Environmental) was used for the full calendar year for all monitoring sites.
- The monitoring has been completed in adherence with the 2025 Diffusion Tube Monitoring Calendar.

All diffusion tube monitoring locations within Blaenau Gwent CBC recorded data capture of 75% therefore it was not required to annualise any monitoring data. In addition, any sites with a data capture below 25% do not require annualisation.

Diffusion Tube Bias Adjustment Factors

Blaenau Gwent CBC have applied a national bias adjustment factor of 0.92 to the 2025 monitoring data. A summary of bias adjustment factors used by Blaenau Gwent CBC in previous years is presented in Table C.1.

Table C.1 – Bias Adjustment Factor

Year	Local or National	If National, Version of National Spreadsheet	Adjustment Factor
2025	National	06/26 (19 studies)	0.92
2024	National	06/25 (12 studies)	0.88
2023	National	06/24 (15 studies)	0.83
2022	National	6/22 (15 studies)	0.82
2021	National	6/22	0.82
2020	National	03/21	0.82

NO_2 Fall-off with Distance from the Road

No diffusion tube NO_2 monitoring locations within Blaenau Gwent CBC required distance correction during 2025.

QA/QC of Automatic Monitoring

Blaenau Gwent CBC does not undertake any automatic monitoring.

National Diffusion Tube Bias Adjustment Factor Spreadsheet

Spreadsheet Version Number: 06/26

Follow the steps below **in the correct order** to show the results of **relevant** co-location studies

Data only apply to tubes exposed monthly and are not suitable for correcting individual short-term monitoring periods

Whenever presenting adjusted data, you should state the adjustment factor used and the version of the spreadsheet

This spreadsheet will be updated every few months: the factors may therefore be subject to change. This should not discourage their immediate use.

This spreadsheet will be updated at the end of September 2026

LAQM Helpdesk Website

The LAQM Helpdesk is operated on behalf of Defra and the Devolved Administrations by Bureau Veritas, in conjunction with contract partners AECOM and the National Physical Laboratory.

Spreadsheet maintained by the National Physical Laboratory. Original compiled by Air Quality Consultants Ltd.

Step 1: Select the Laboratory that Analyses Your Tubes from the Drop-Down List

If a laboratory is not shown, we have no data for this laboratory.

Step 2: Select a Preparation Method from the Drop-Down List

If a preparation method is not shown, we have no data for this method at this laboratory.

Step 3: Select a Year from the Drop-Down List

If a year is not shown, we have no data[2]

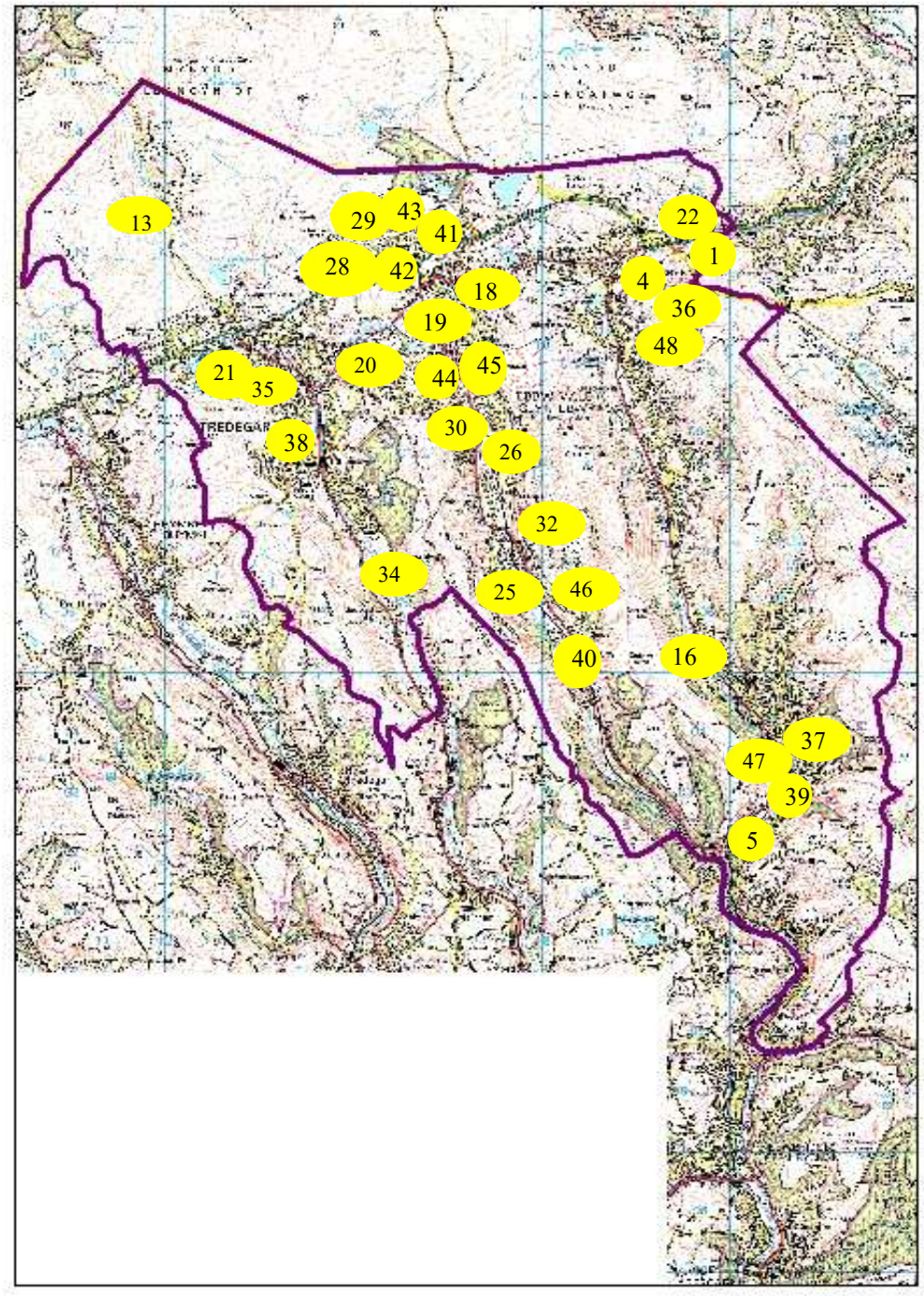
Step 4:

Where there is only one study for a chosen combination, you should use the adjustment factor shown with caution. Where there is more than one study, use the overall factor[3] shown in blue at the foot of the final column.

If you have your own co-location study then see footnote[4]. If uncertain what to do then contact the Local Air Quality Management Helpdesk at LAQMHelpdesk@bureauveritas.com or 0800 0327953

Analysed By[1]	Method (To undo your selection, choose (All) from the pop-up list)	Year[5] (To undo your selection, choose (All))	Site Type	Local Authority	Length of Study (months)	Diffusion Tube Mean Conc. (Dm) (µg/m^3)	Automatic Monitor Mean Conc. (Cm) (µg/m^3)	Bias (B)	Tube Precision[6]	Bias Adjustment Factor (A) (Cm/Dm)
Gradko	50% TEA in Acetone	2025	UC	Falkirk Council	11	27	25	6.1%	G	0.94
Gradko	50% TEA in Acetone	2025	UB	Falkirk Council	11	11	15	-22.6%	G	1.29
Gradko	50% TEA in acetone	2025	KS	Marylebone Road Intercomparison	12	37	31	17.7%	G	0.85
Gradko	50% TEA in acetone	2025	SU	Redcar And Cleveland Borough Council	12	11	9	29.0%	G	0.78
Gradko	50% TEA in Acetone	2025	R	London Borough Of Merton	12	27	22	22.7%	G	0.81
Gradko	50% TEA in acetone	2025	UB	London Borough Of Wandsworth	12	20	18	9.0%	G	0.92
Gradko	50% TEA in acetone	2025	R	London Borough Of Richmond Upon Thames	12	15	18	-17.8%	G	1.22
Gradko	50% TEA in acetone	2025	KS	London Borough Of Richmond Upon Thames	10	30	26	15.9%	G	0.86
Gradko	50% TEA in acetone	2025	B	London Borough Of Richmond Upon Thames	12	13	13	1.5%	G	0.99
Gradko	50% TEA in acetone	2025	R	Sandwell Mbc	11	28	24	16.6%	G	0.86
Gradko	50% TEA in acetone	2025	UB	Sandwell Mbc	11	19	20	-5.2%	G	1.05
Gradko	50% TEA in acetone	2025	UB	City Of York Council	12	13	12	13.4%	G	0.88
Gradko	50% TEA in acetone	2025	R	City Of York Council	12	20	19	6.6%	G	0.94
Gradko	50% TEA in acetone	2025	R	City Of York Council	10	16	15	7.0%	G	0.93
Gradko	50% TEA in acetone	2025	R	City Of York Council	11	21	18	18.1%	G	0.85
Gradko	50% TEA in acetone	2025	R	Lb Newham	11	23	20	14.2%	G	0.88
Gradko	50% TEA in acetone	2025		**Overall Factor[3] (19 studies)**				**Use**		0.92

Appendix D: Blaenau Gwent CBC boundary area and diffusion tube location plans



Appendix E- Individual location plans for all diffusion tubes within Blaenau Gwent 2025

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-01- The Darren, Daren-felen Road, Brynmawr

Easting: 319540 **Northing:** 211953

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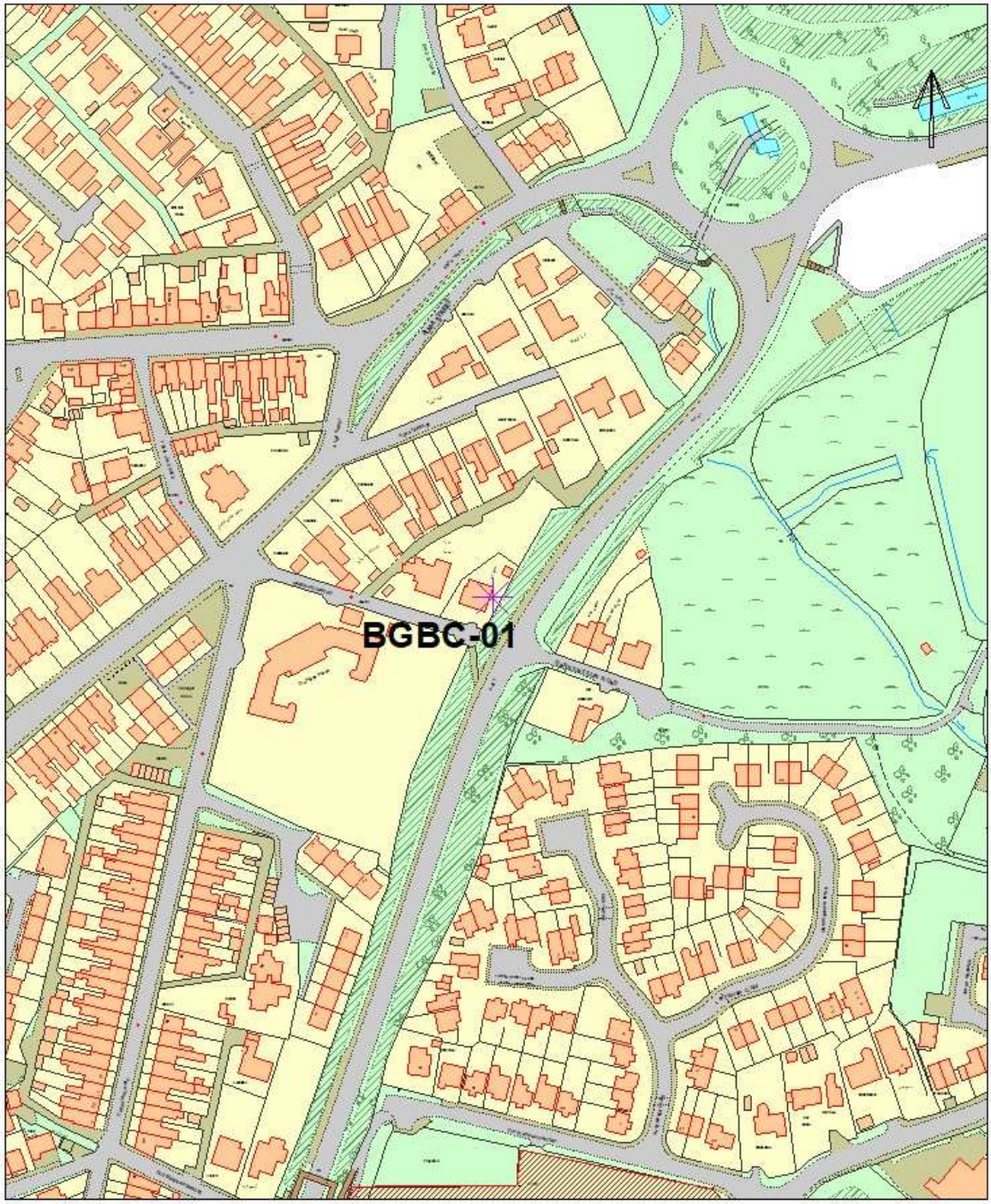
Y mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGCBC - LA09002L



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-04- 22 Parkhill, Beaufort, Ebbw Vale

Easting: 317307 **Northing:** 211285

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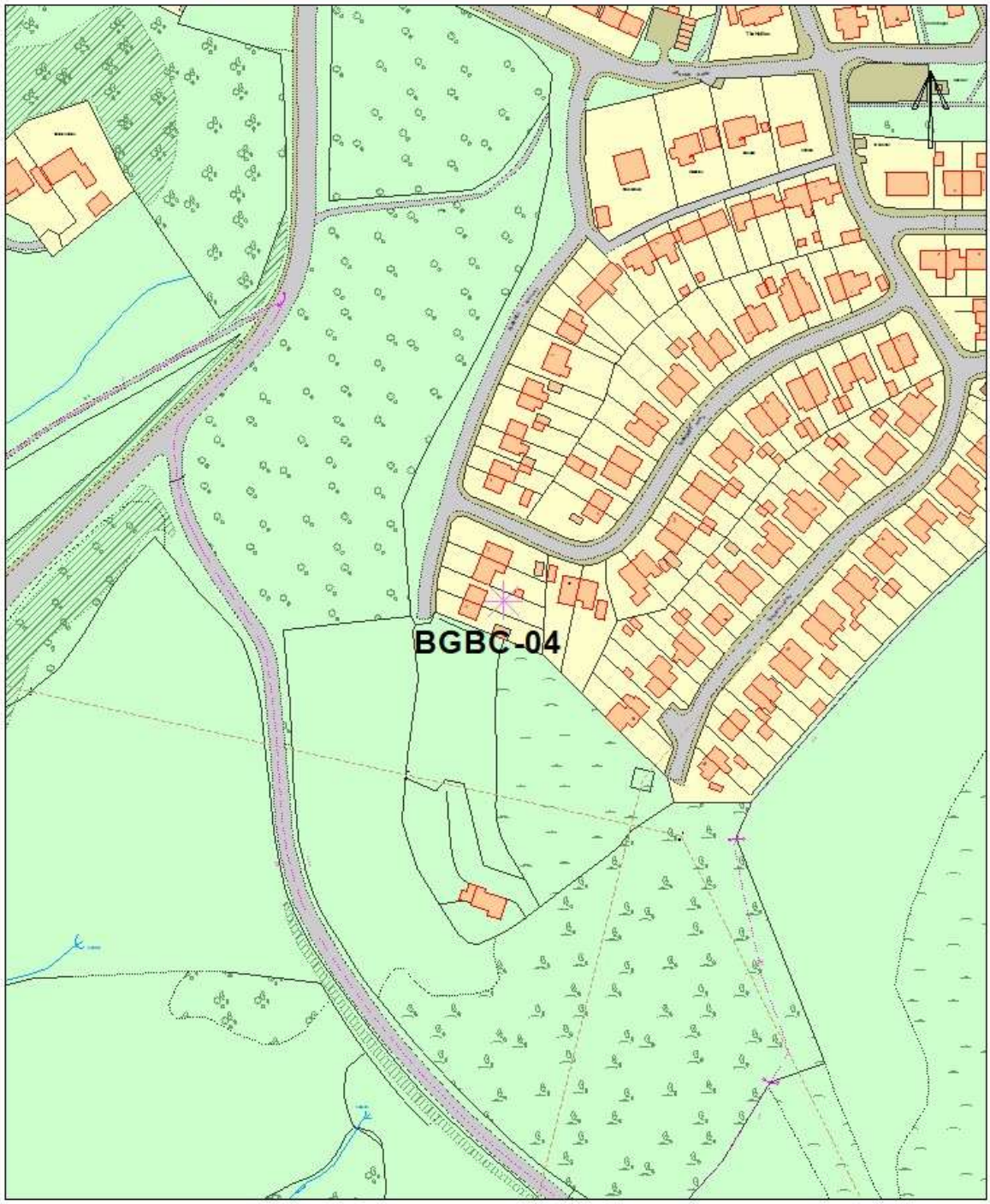
Y mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGCBC - LA09002L



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-05- Willow Tree Bungalow, Aberbeeg

Easting: 321132 **Northing:** 201113

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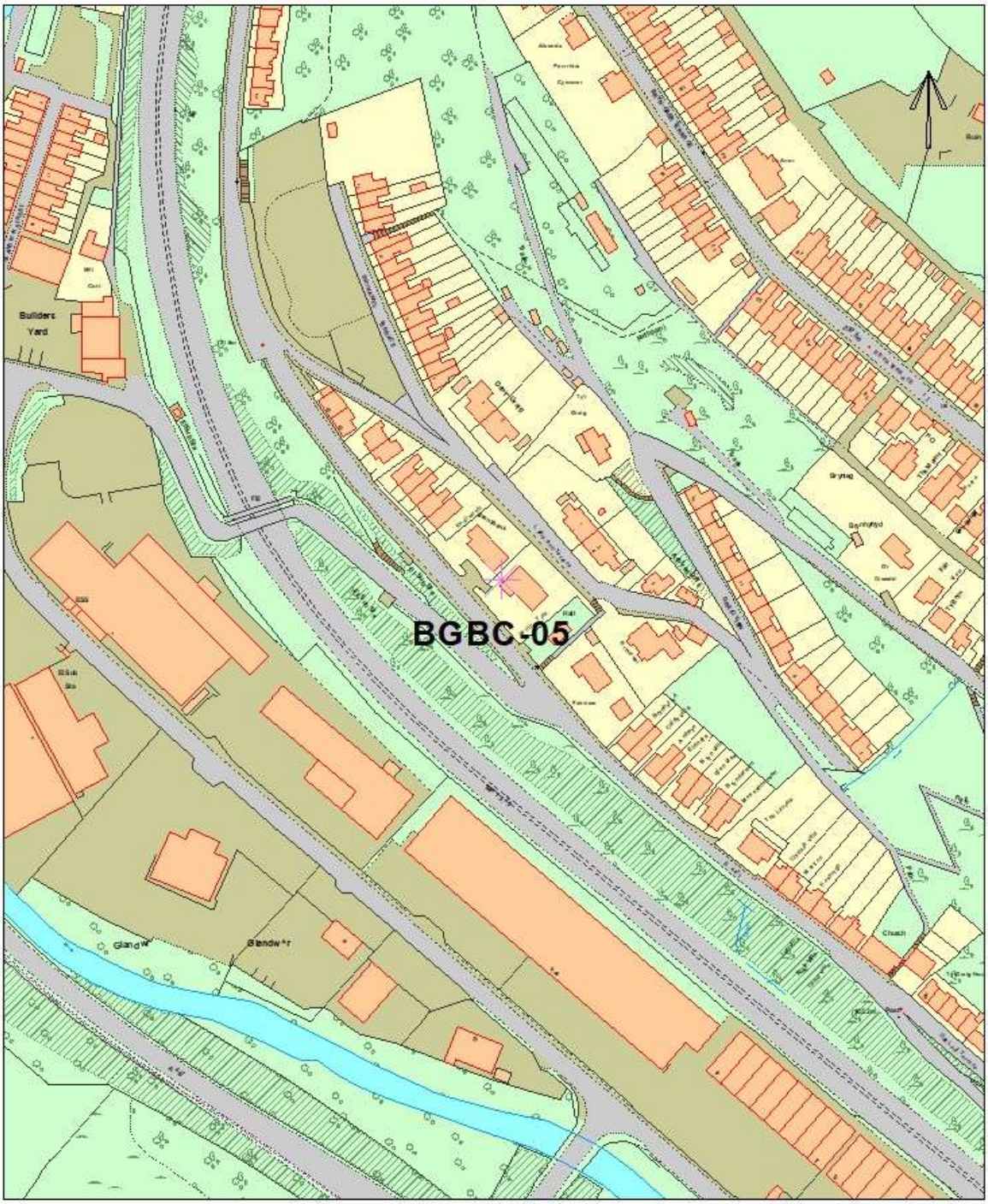
Y mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGCBC - LA09002L



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-13- 3 Kings Arms Cottages, Trefil, Tredegar

Easting: 312004 **Northing:** 212779

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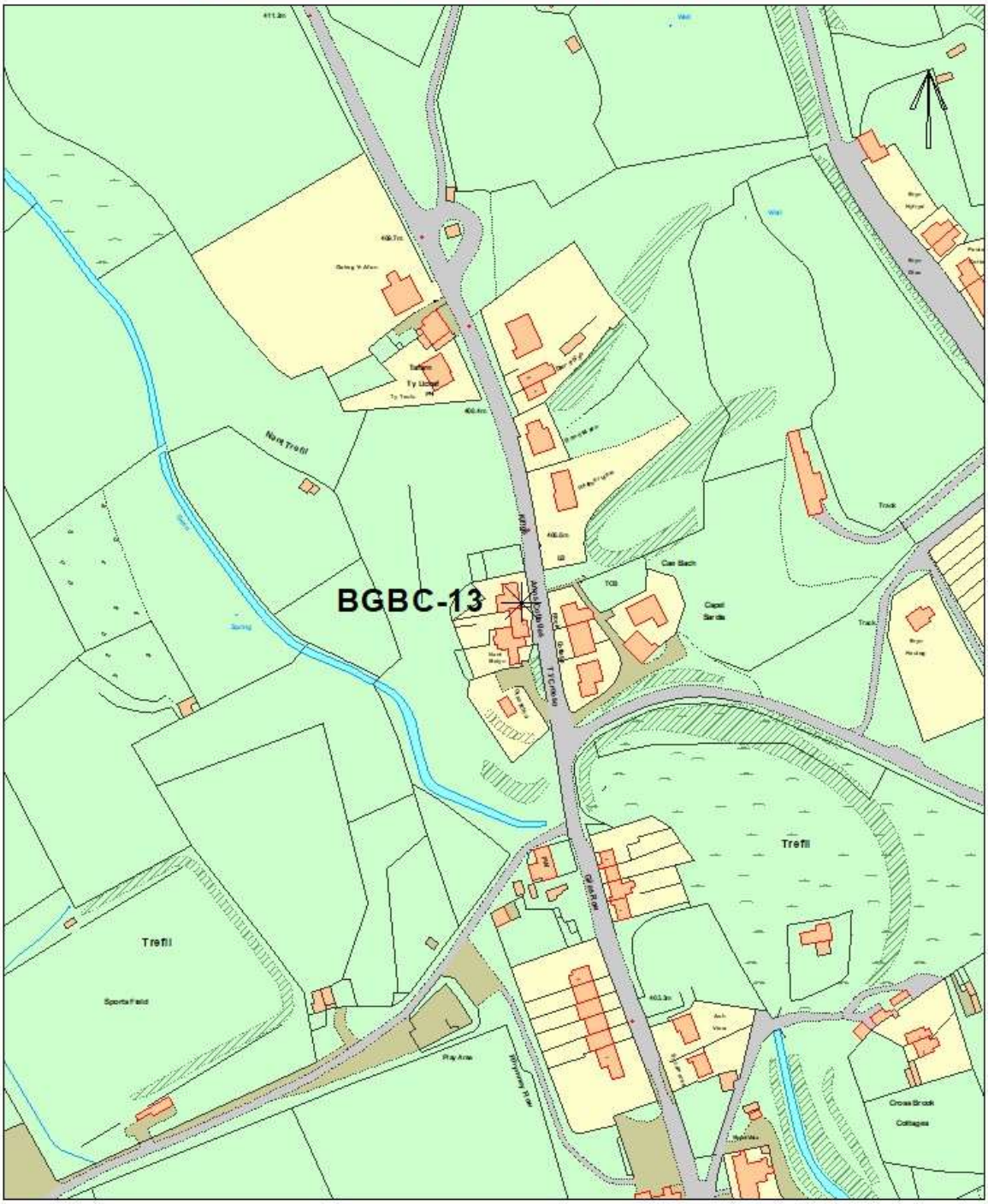
Y mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGCBC - LA09002L



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-16- 49 Aberbeeg Road, Aberbeeg

Easting: 321432 **Northing:** 202667

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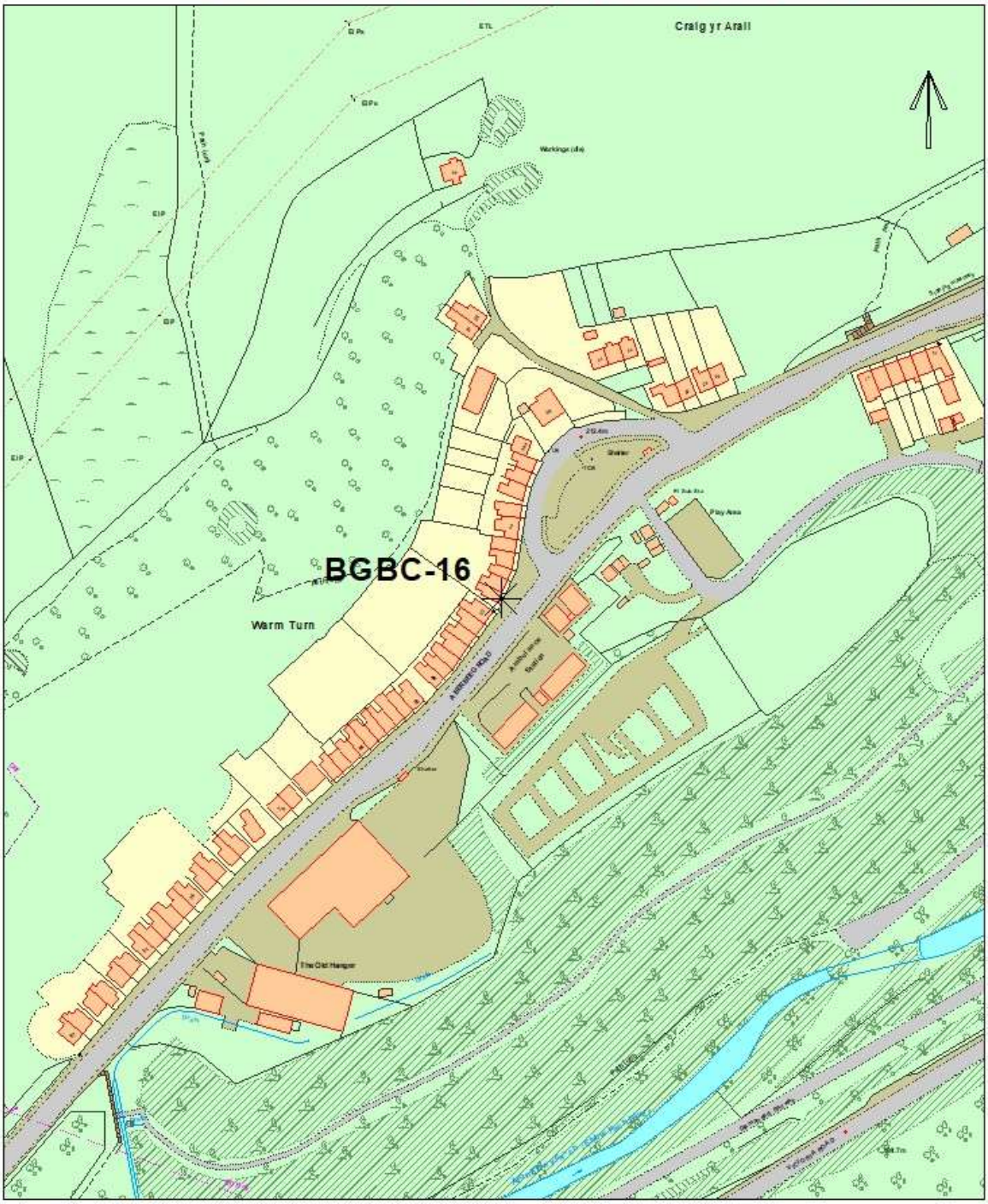
Y mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGCBC - LA09002L



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-18- Welfare Hall, Beaufort Hill, Ebbw Vale

Easting: 317543 **Northing:** 211693

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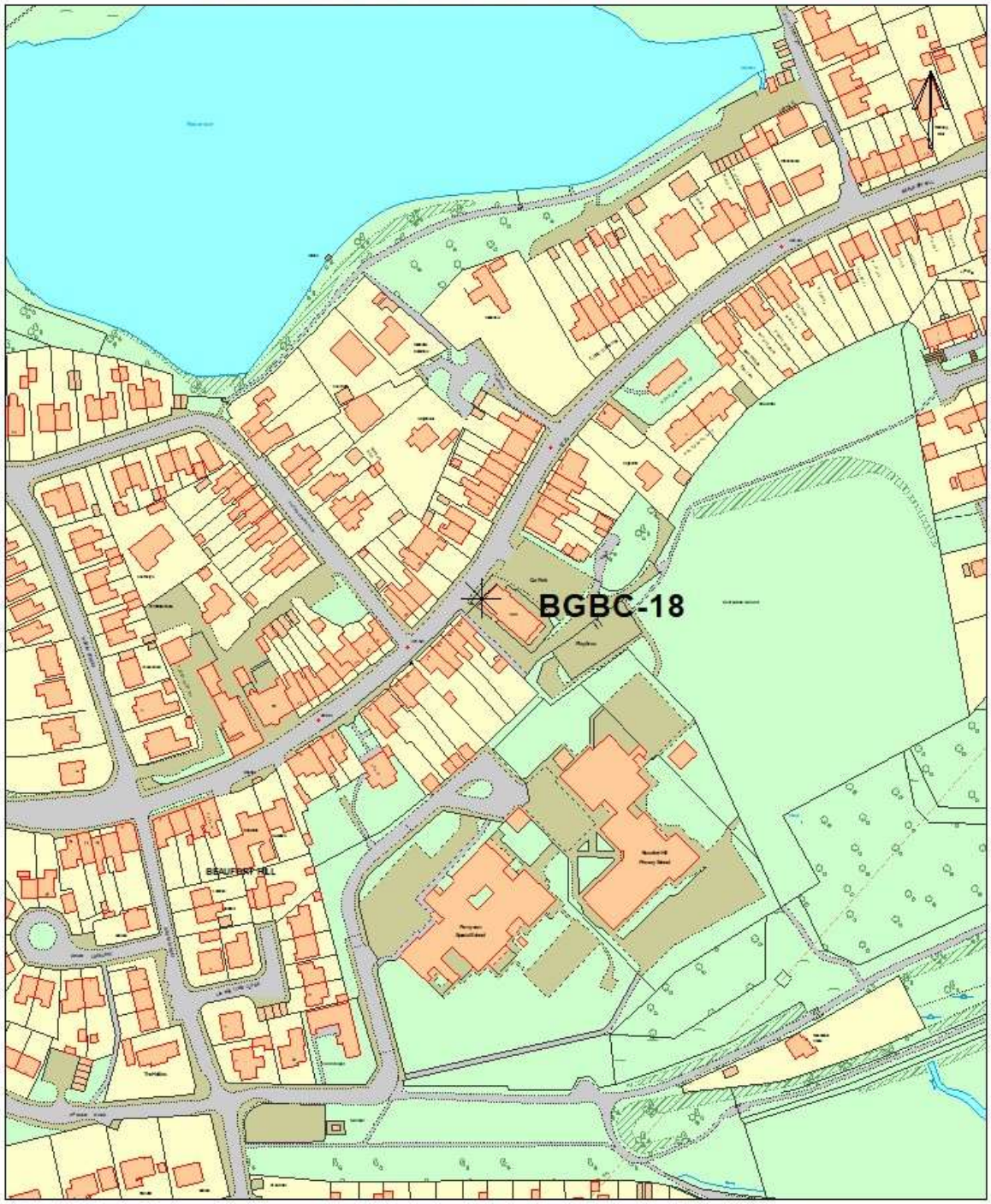
Y mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGCBC - LA09002L



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-19- 42 Beaufort Rise, Ebbw Vale

Easting: 316672 **Northing:** 211595

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Y mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGCBC - LA09002L



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-20- 122 Beaufort Road, Tredegar

Easting: 314854 **Northing:** 210235

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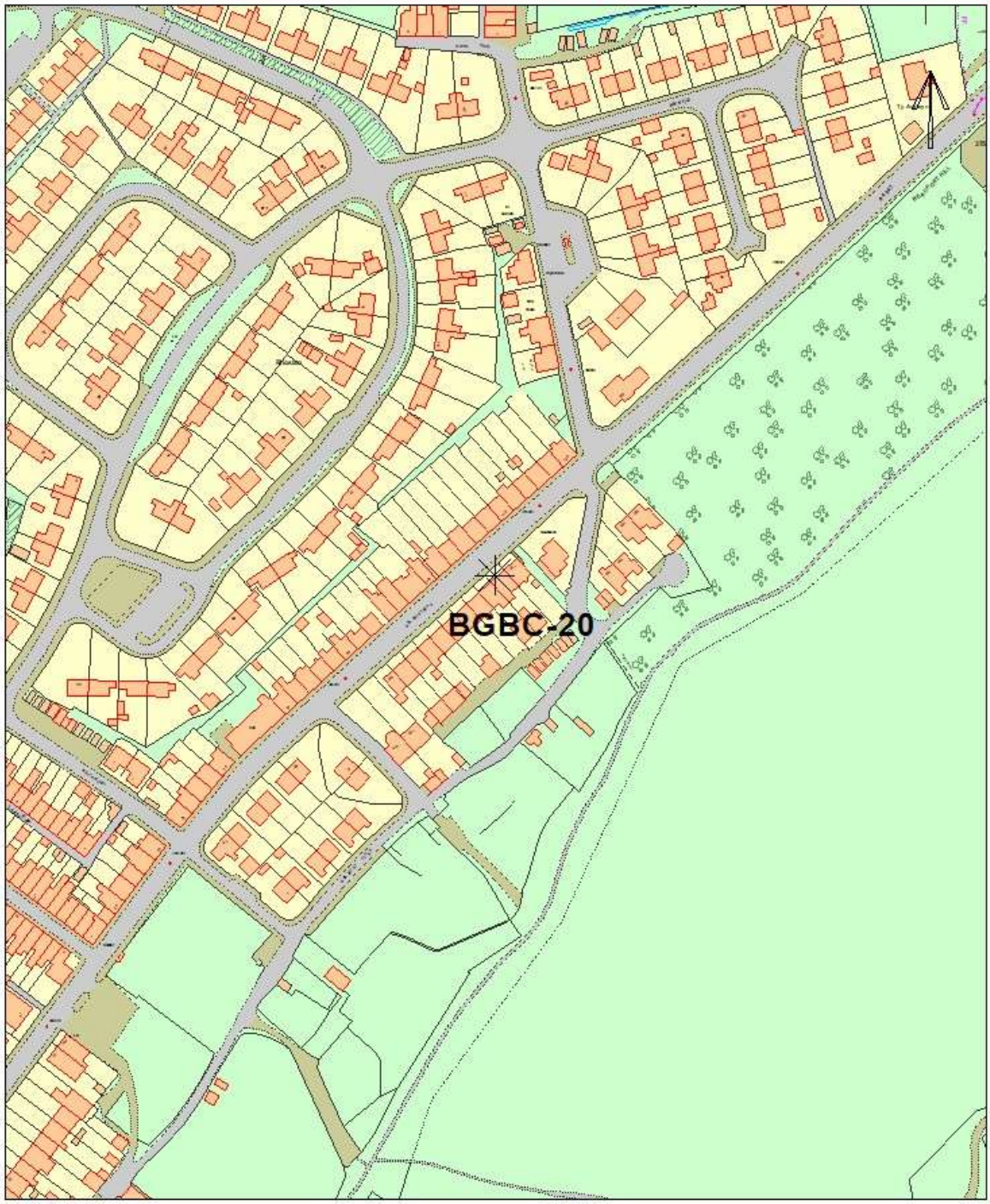
Y mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGCBC - LA09002L



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-21- 14 Bryn Rhosyn, Merthyr Road, Tredegar

Easting: 312842 **Northing:** 210590

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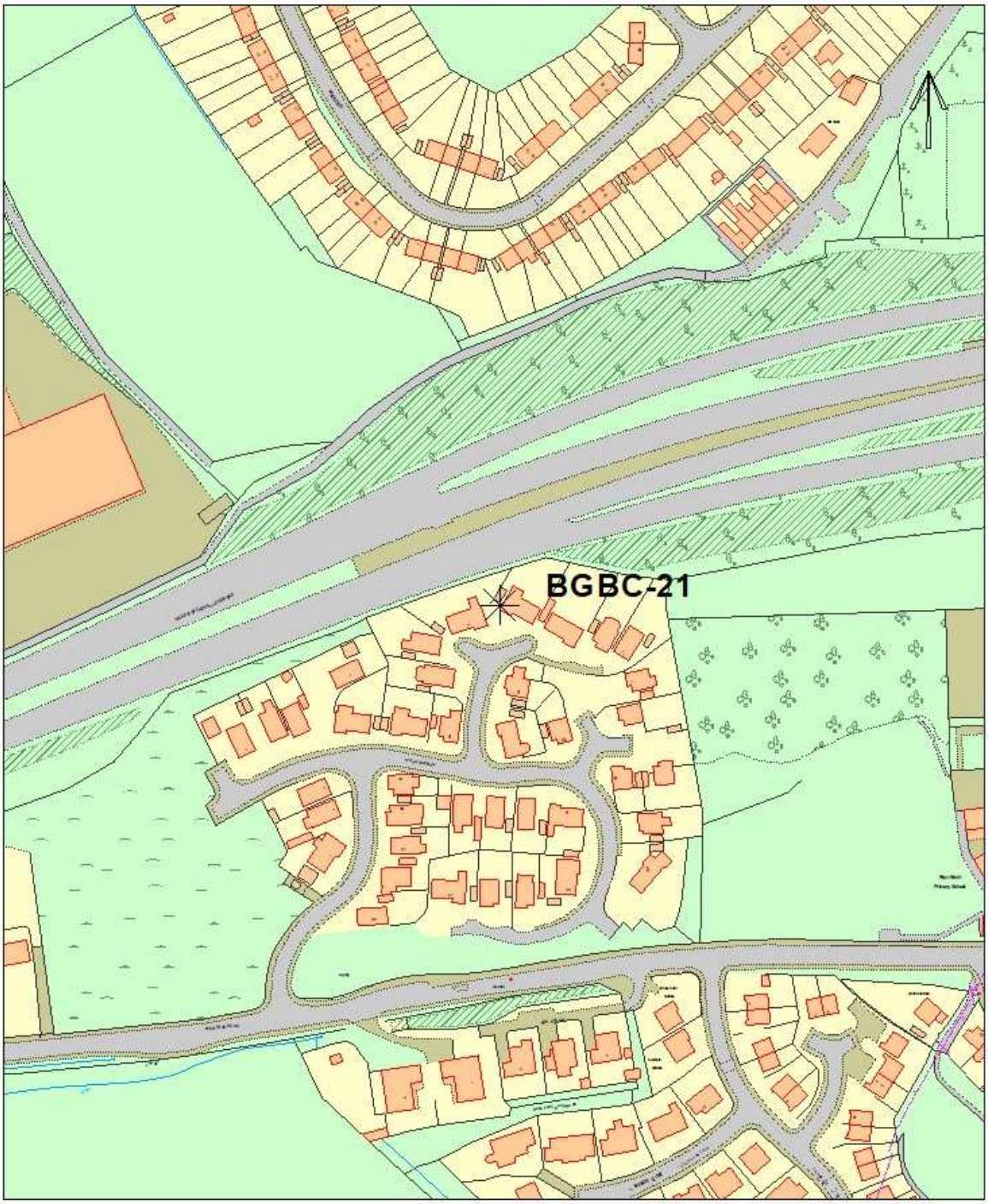
Y mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGCBC - LA09002L



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-22- 2 King Street, Brynmawr

Easting: 319561 **Northing:** 212138

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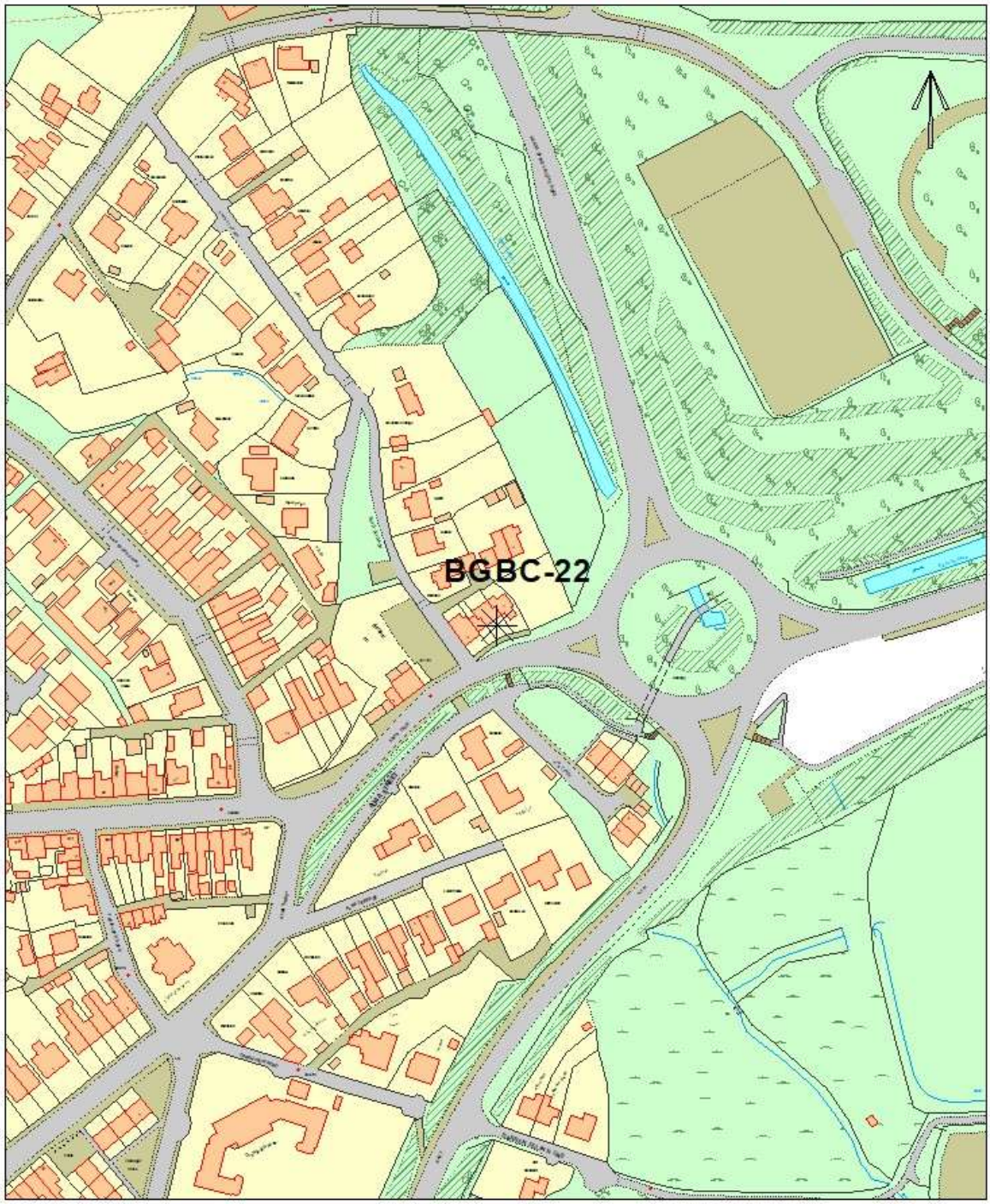
Y mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGCBC - LA09002L



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-25- Red Rose Care Centre, Park Road, Ebbw Val

Easting: 316990 **Northing:** 207896

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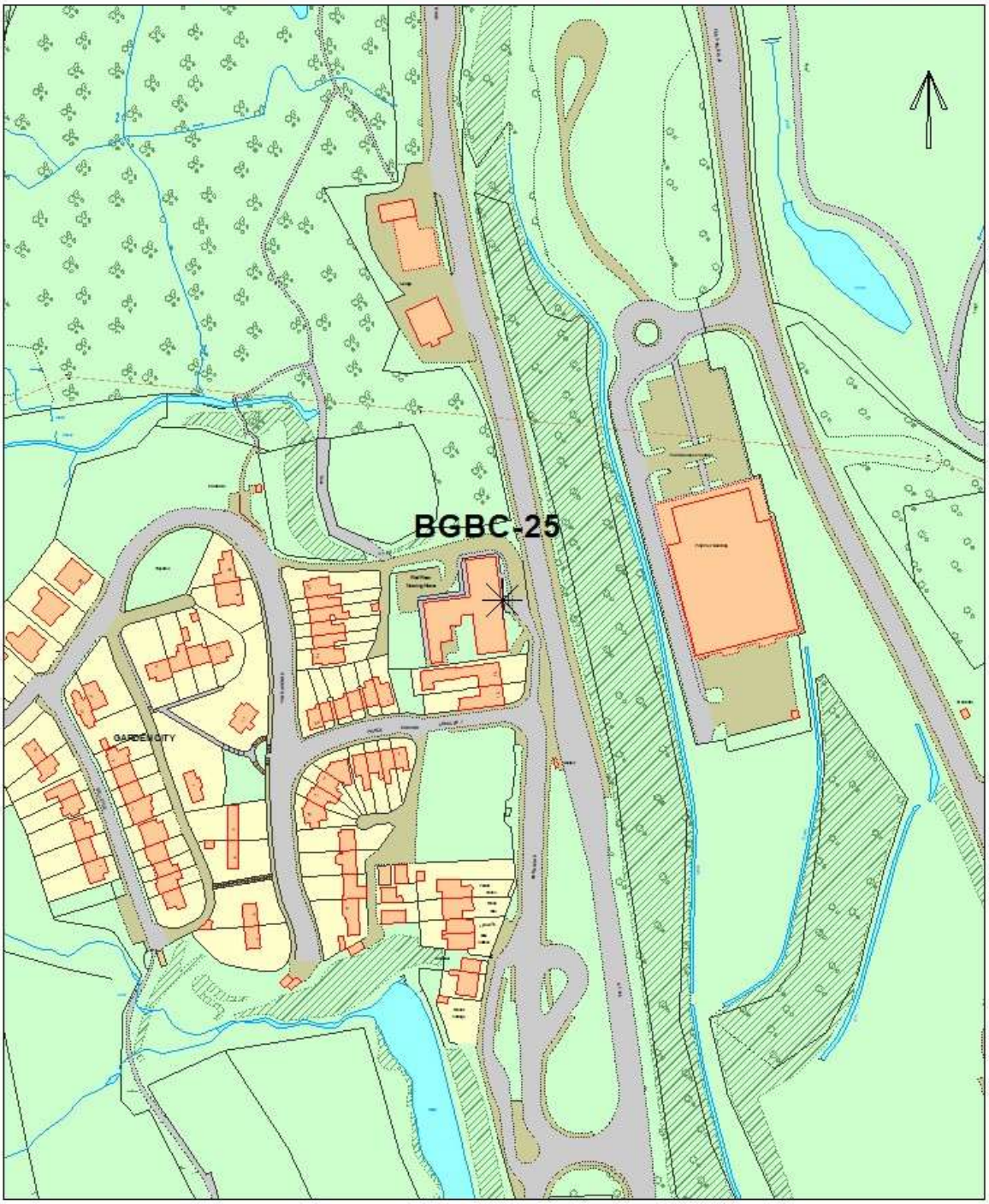

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-26 - 2 The Dingle, Ebbw Vale

Easting: 316979 **Northing:** 209842

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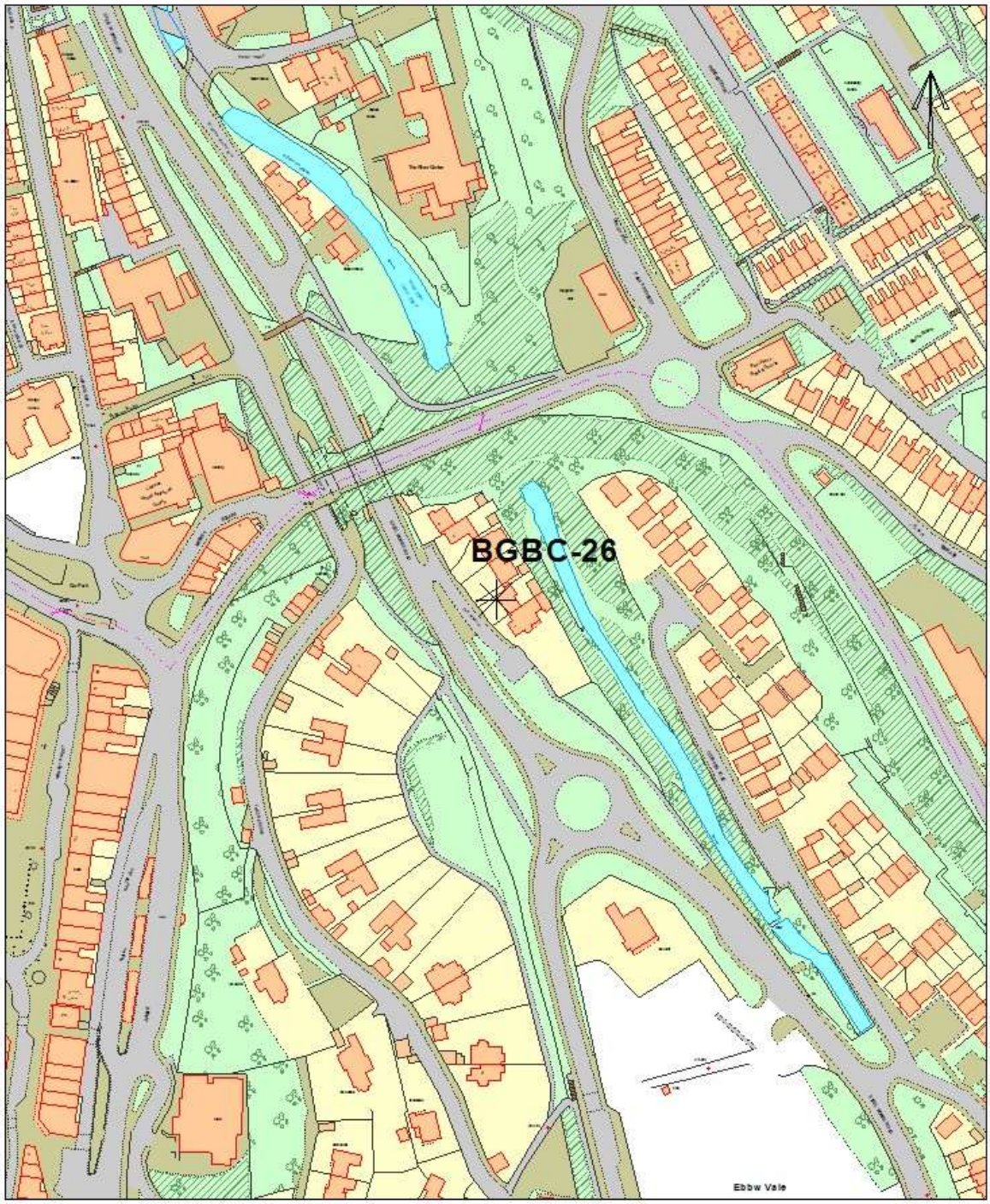
Y mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGCBC - LA09002L



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-28- 1 Coates Row, Rassau, Ebbw Vale

Easting: 314491 **Northing:** 211644

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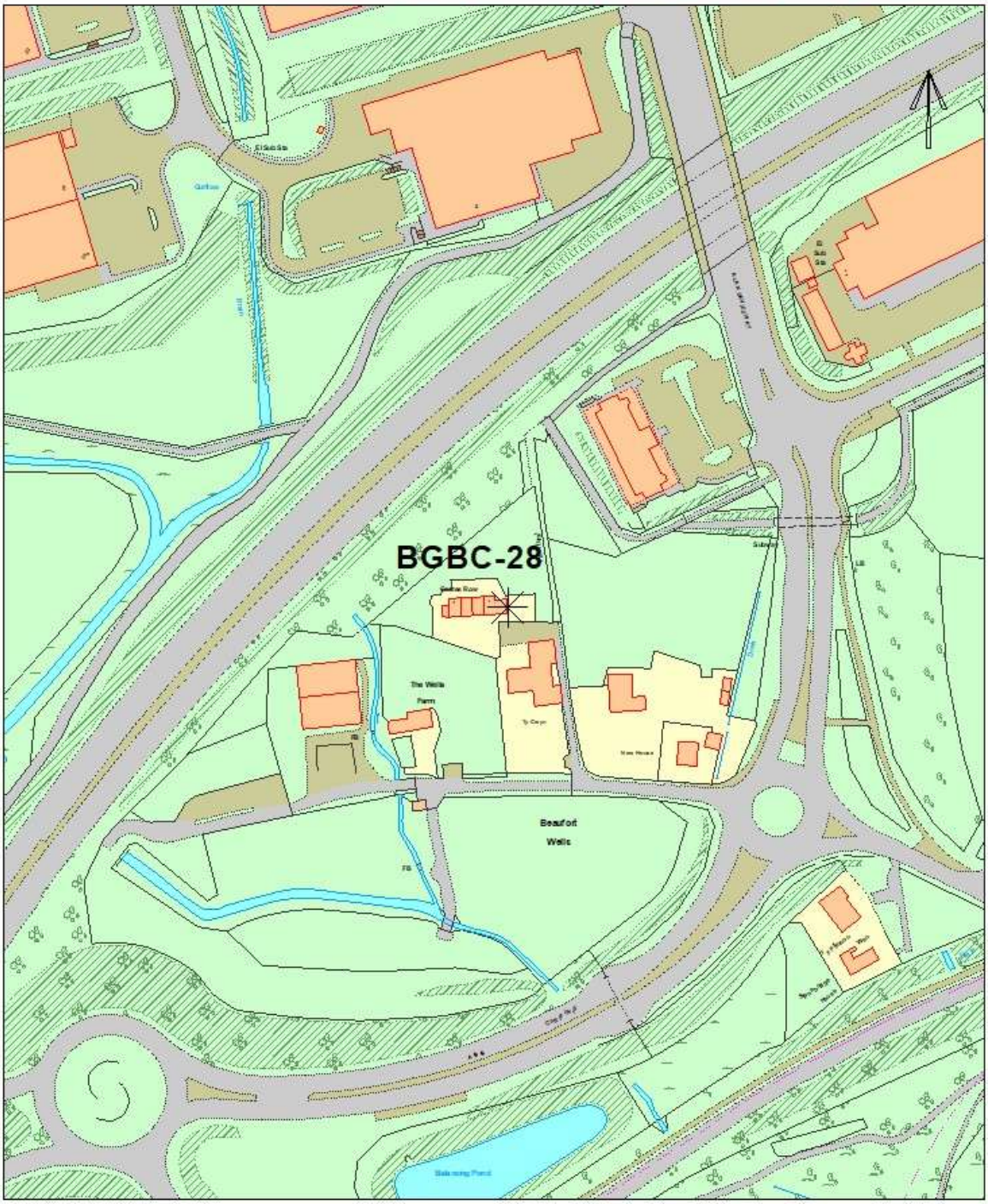
Y mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGCBC - LA09002L



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-29- 10 Ivy Close, Rassau, Ebbw Vale.

Easting: 315323 **Northing:** 211938

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Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-30- 8 Annes Court, Ebbw Vale.

Easting: 316005 **Northing:** 210184

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Y mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGCBC - LA09002L



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-32- Ebbw Fawr Learning Campus, Primary School

Easting: 317389 **Northing:** 208312

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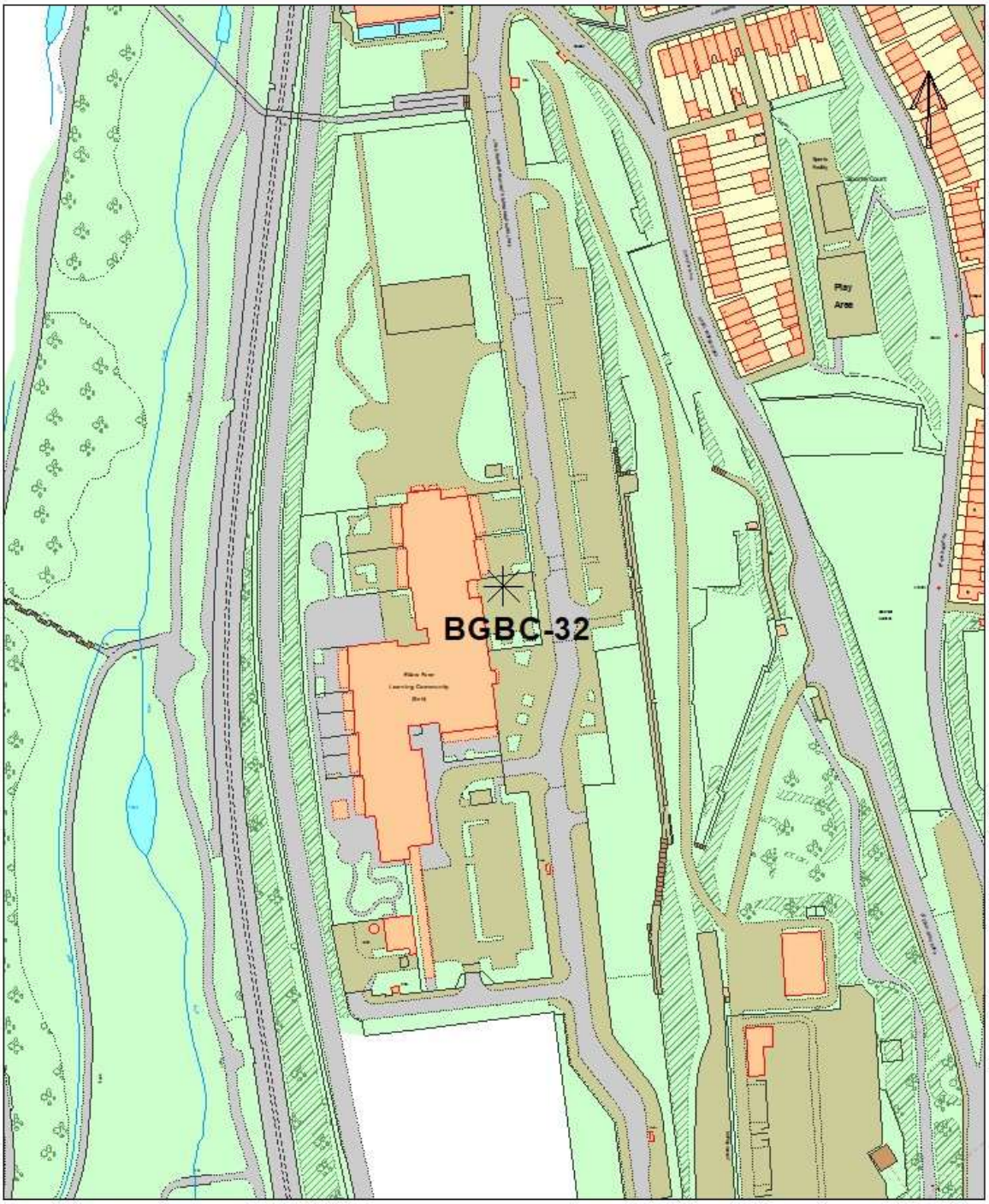
Y mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGCBC - LA09002L



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-34- Georgetown Primary School, Oakfield Road,

Easting: 314842 **Northing:** 208255

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Y mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGCBC - LA09002L



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-35- Brynbach Primary School, Merthyr Road, Tr

Easting: 313056 **Northing:** 210464

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Y mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGCBC - LA09002L



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-36- St Mary's RC Primary School, Brynmawr.

Easting: 319229 **Northing:** 211595

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Y mae atgynhyrchu heb awdurdod yn torri Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGCBC - LA09002L



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-37- Abertillery Learning Campus, Tillery Stre

Easting: 321892 **Northing:** 204585

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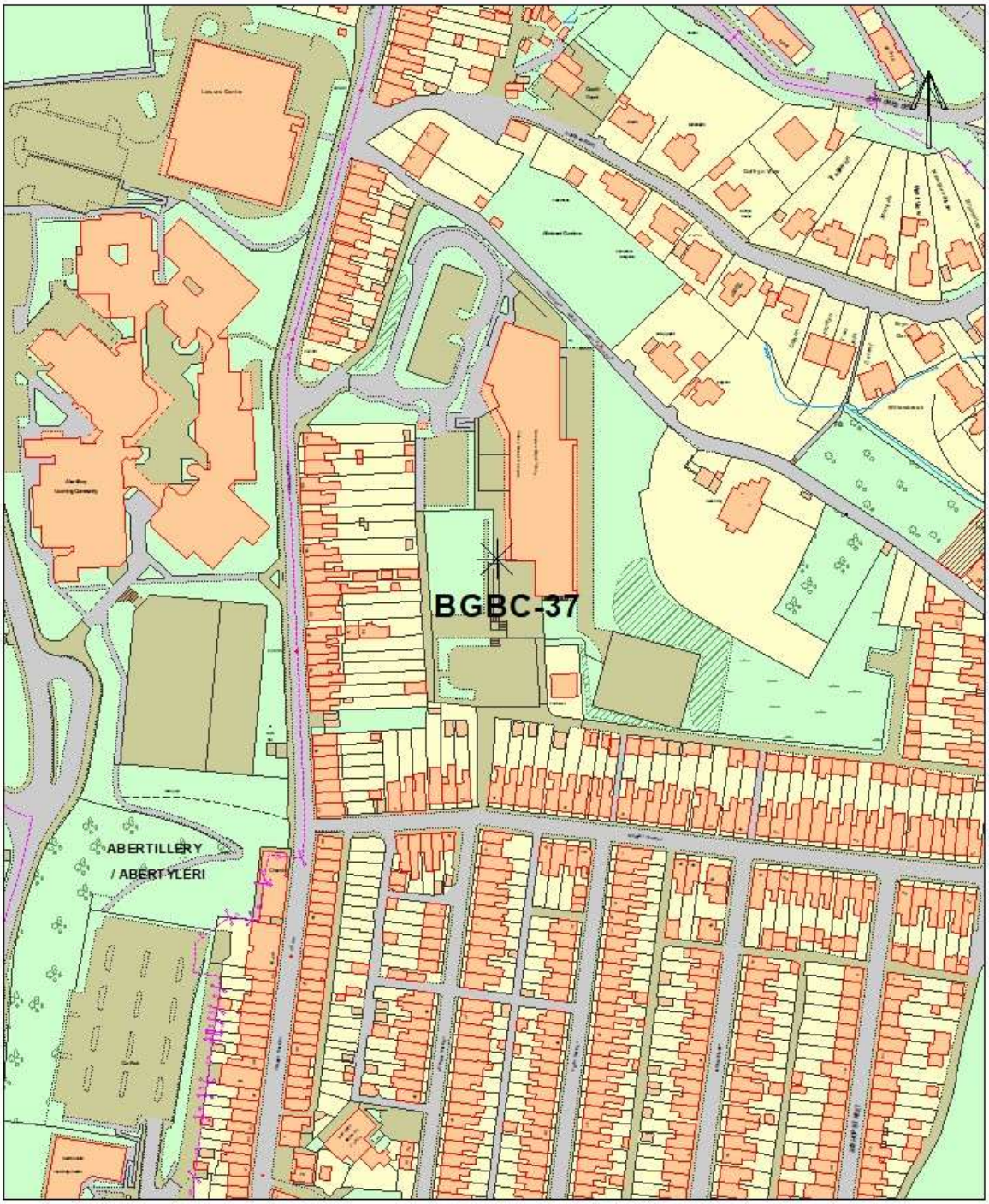

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Richard Crook BSc, DipTP, MBA, MRTPI
Corporate Director Environment and Regeneration / Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol yr Amgylchedd ac Adfywio

PROJECT :	BGBC-38
TITLE:	Deighton Primary School, Stockton Way, Tredegar

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Date : 22/09/2021 Map Reference : SO1309NE Scale : 1:2000



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Richard Crook BSc, DipTP, MBA, MRTPI
Corporate Director Environment and Regeneration / Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol yr Amgylchedd ac Adfywio

PROJECT :	BGBC-39
TITLE:	Six Bells Primary Campus Six Bells Road, Abertillery,

Blaenau Gwent

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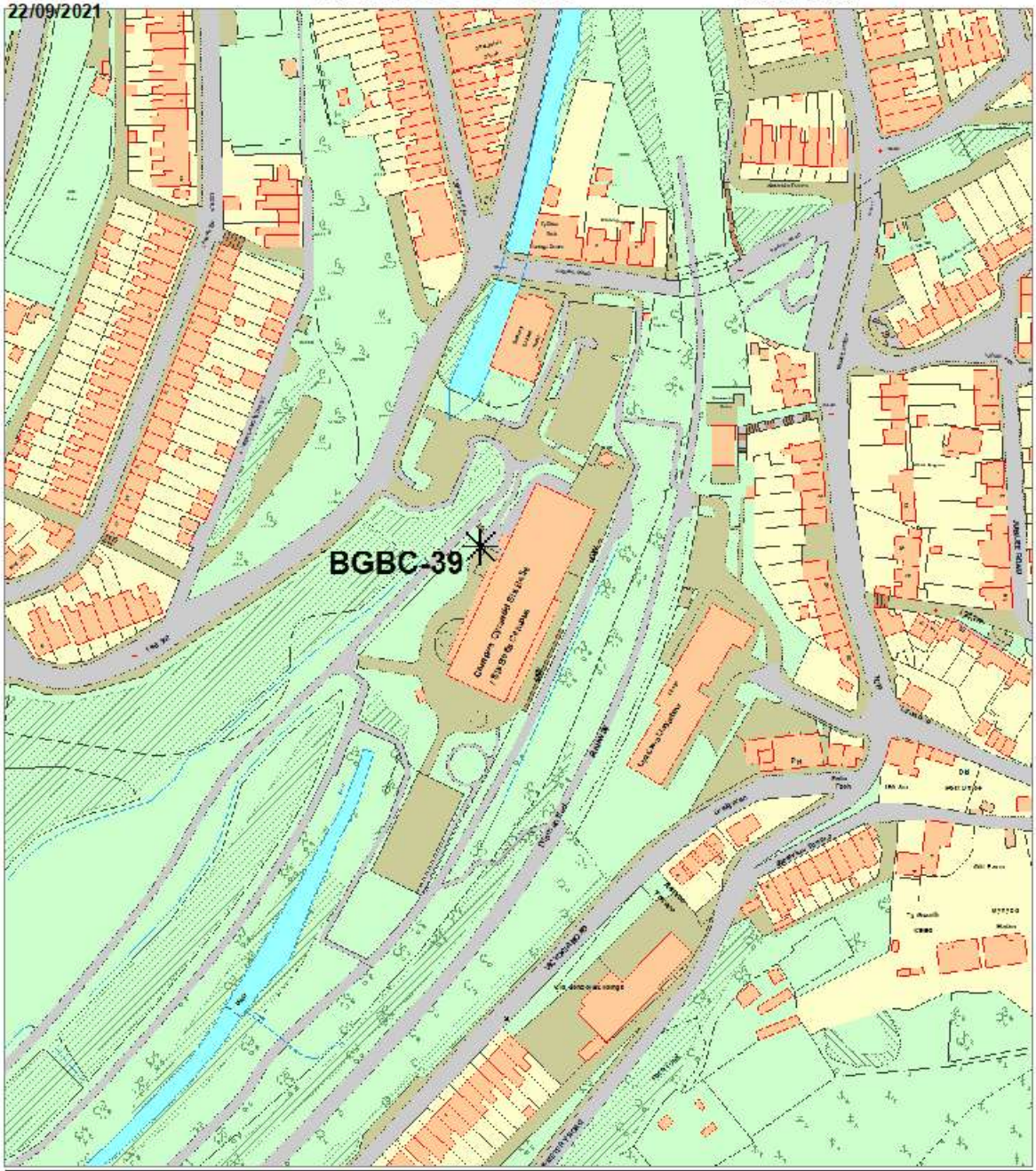
Date : 22/09/2021 Map Reference : SO2202NW Scale : 1:1800



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Richard Crook BSc, DipTP, MBA, MRTPI
Corporate Director Environment and Regeneration / Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol yr Amgylchedd ac Adfywio

PROJECT:	1 Waterloo Terrace, Cwm, Ebbw Vale.
TITLE:	BGBC-40

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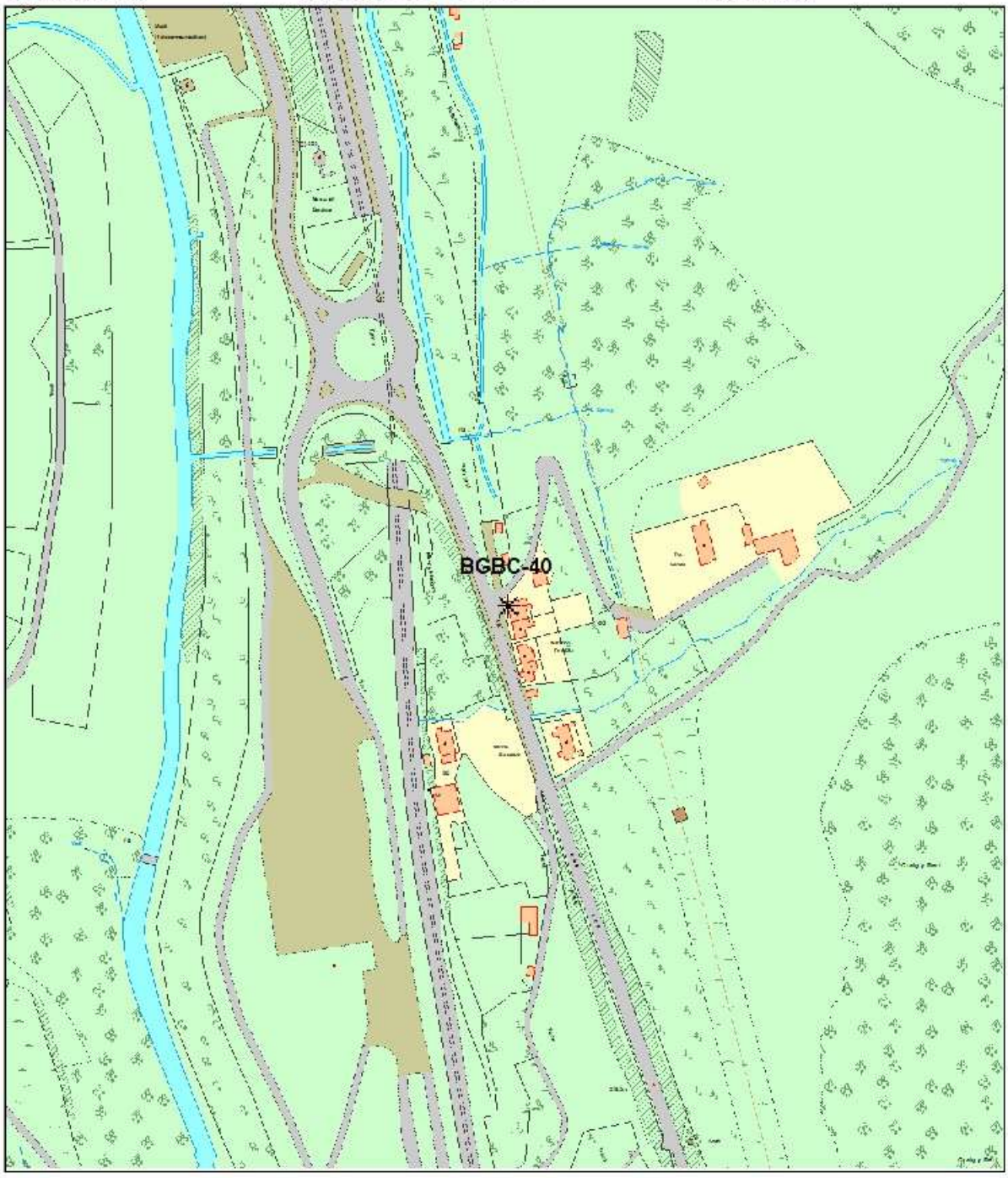
Date : 28/07/2023 Map Reference : SO1804SE Scale : 1:2500



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Richard Crook BSc, DipTP, MBA, MRTPI
Corporate Director Environment and Regeneration / Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol yr Amgylchedd ac Adfywio

PROJECT:	8 Briar Close, Rassau, Ebbw Vale.
TITLE:	BGBC-41

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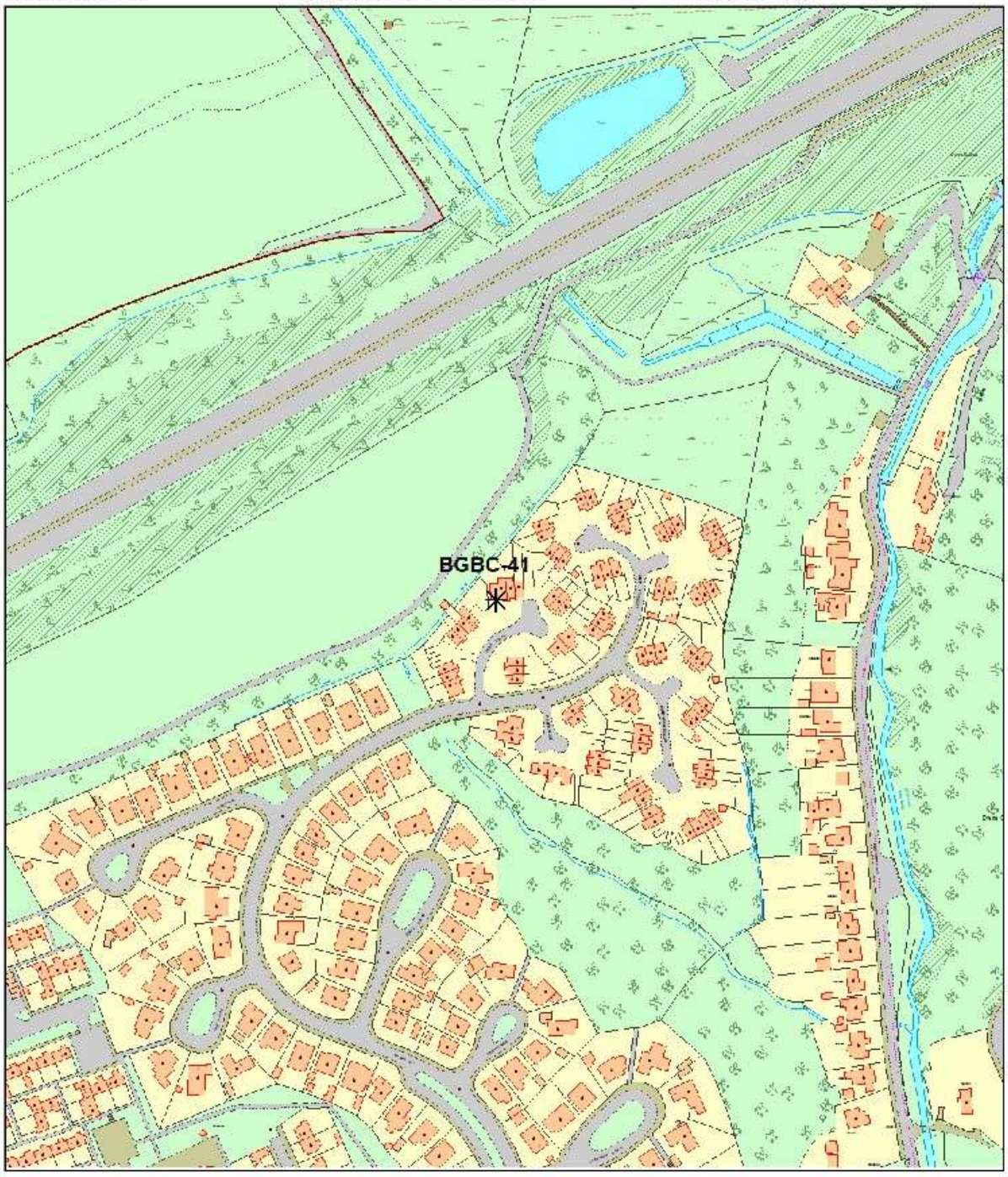
Date : 28/07/2023 Map Reference : SO1612SW Scale : 1:2500



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Corporate Director Environment and Regeneration / Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol yr Amgylchedd ac Adfywio

PROJECT:	Rhos Y Fedwen Primary School, Ebbw Vale
TITLE:	BGBC-42

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Date : 28/07/2023 Map Reference : SO1511NE Scale : 1:2500



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Corporate Director Environment and Regeneration / Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol yr Amgylchedd ac Adfywio

PROJECT: 37 Pen Y Craig, Ebbw Vale

TITLE: BGBC-43

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Date : 28/07/2023 Map Reference : SO1512SE Scale : 1:2500



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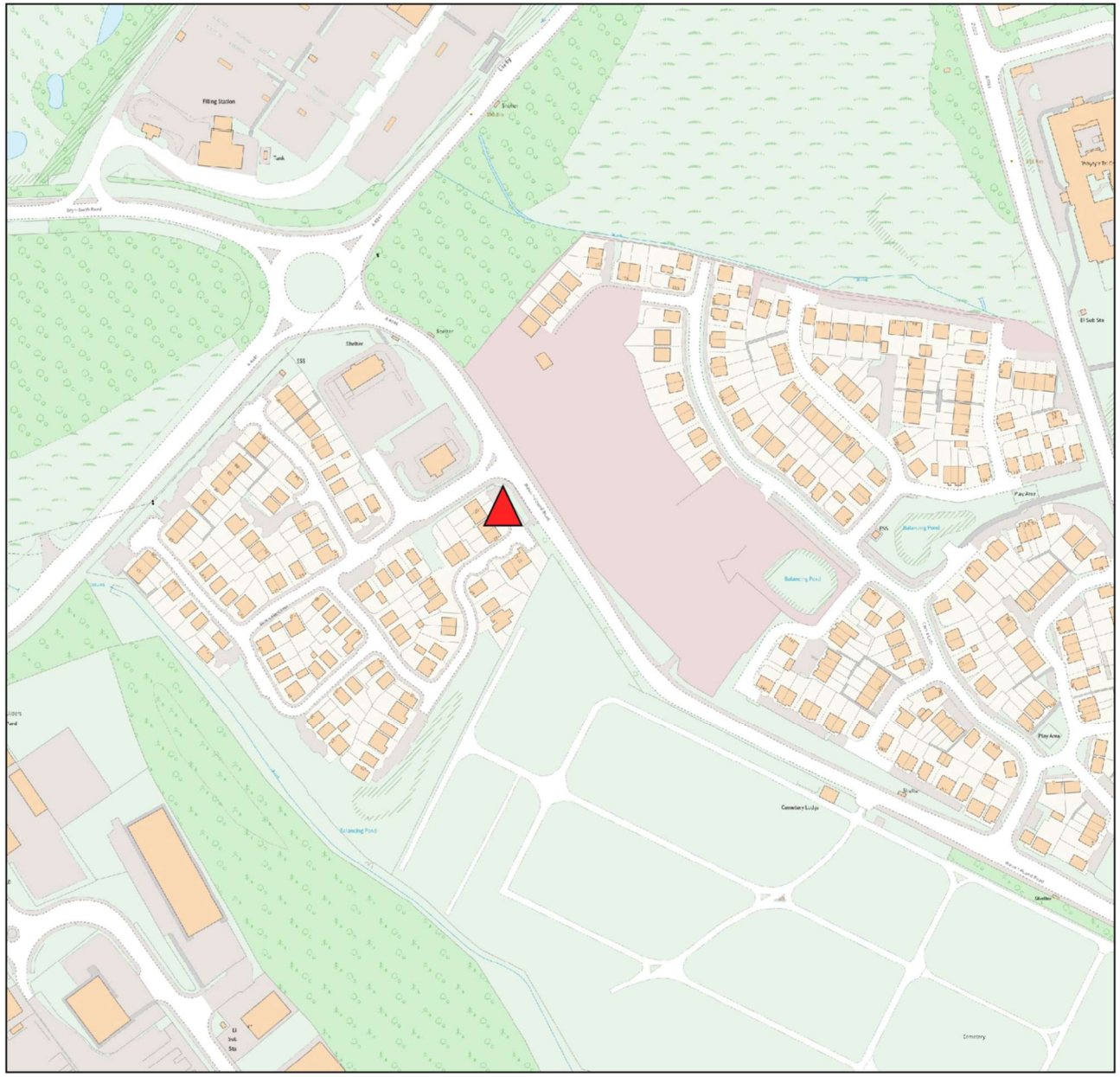

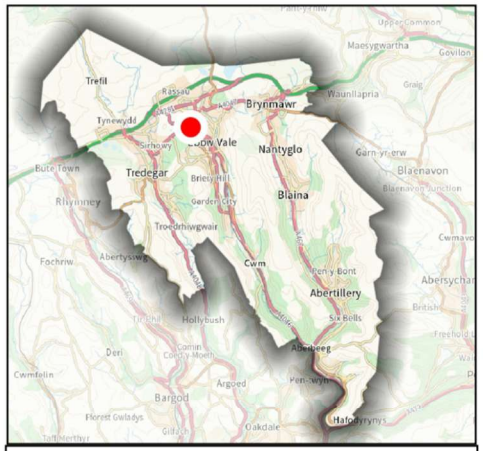

BGBC-44,
18 Blue Lake Close,
Ebbw Vale.

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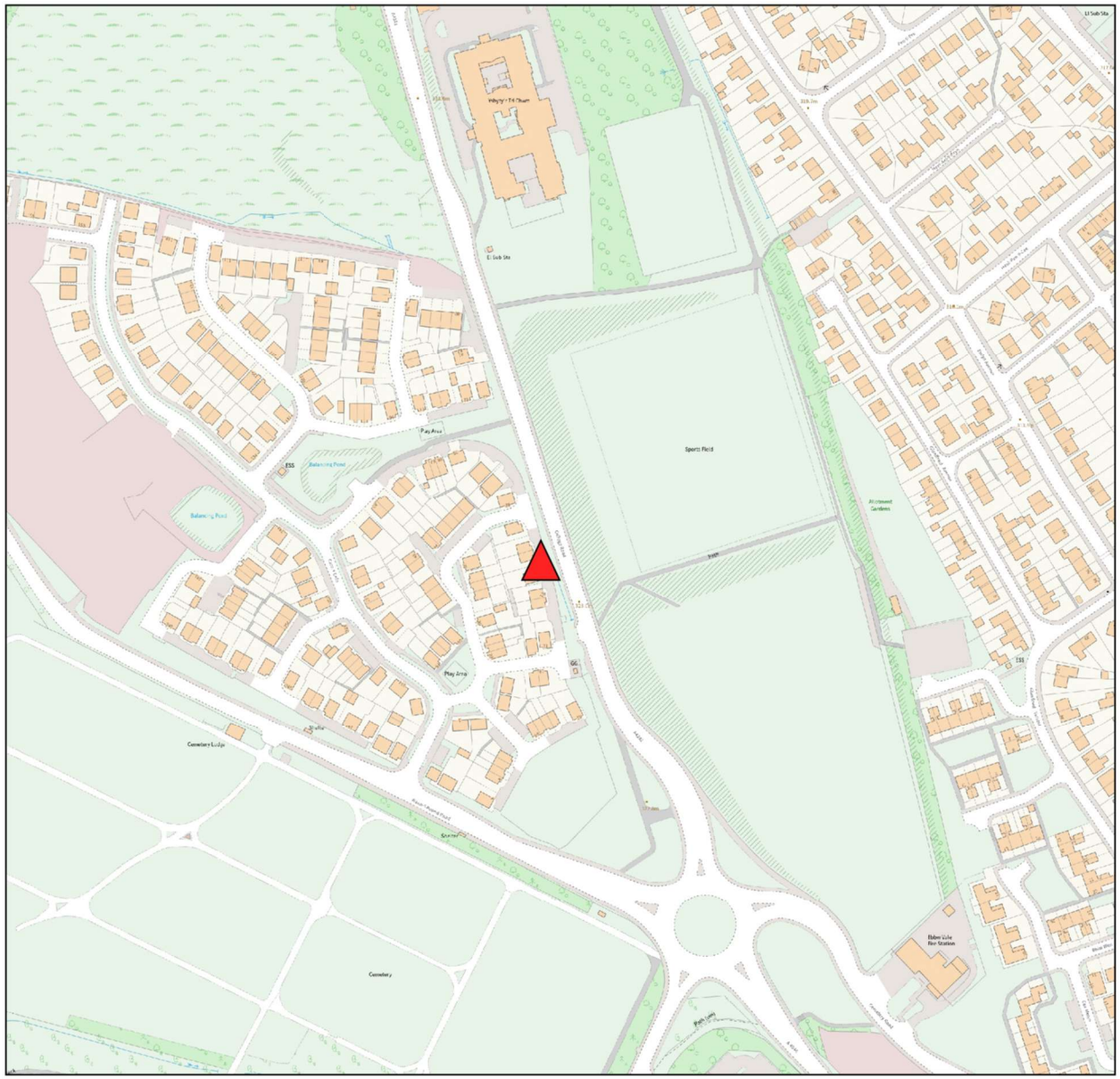

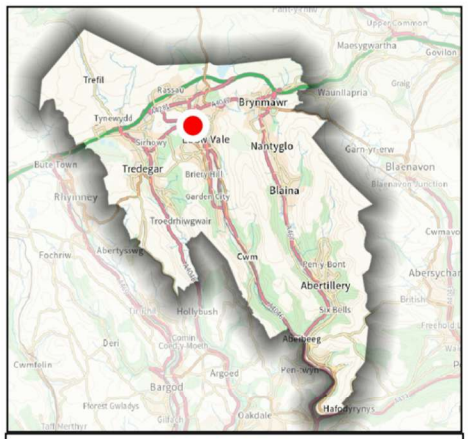

BGBC-45,
34 Carn Y Cefn,
Ebbw Vale.

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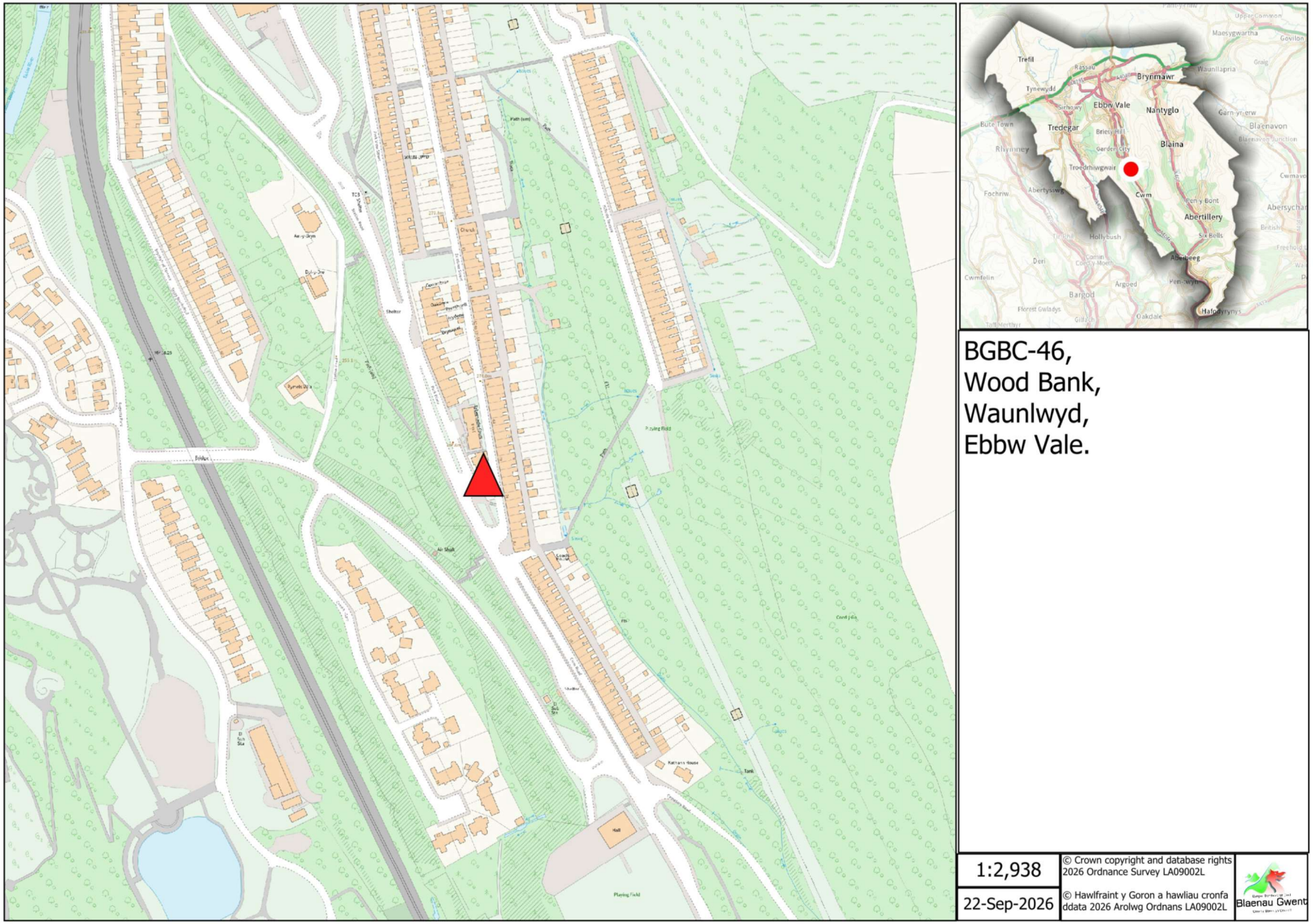
Trefil
Brynmawr
Tynewydd
Ebbw Vale
Nantyglo
Tredegar
Blaina
Rhiwinney
Troedrhiwgwair
Cwm
Abertillery
Hollybush
Aberbeeg
Bargod
Hafodyrynys
BGBC-46,
Wood Bank,
Waunlwyd,
Ebbw Vale.
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22-Sep-2026
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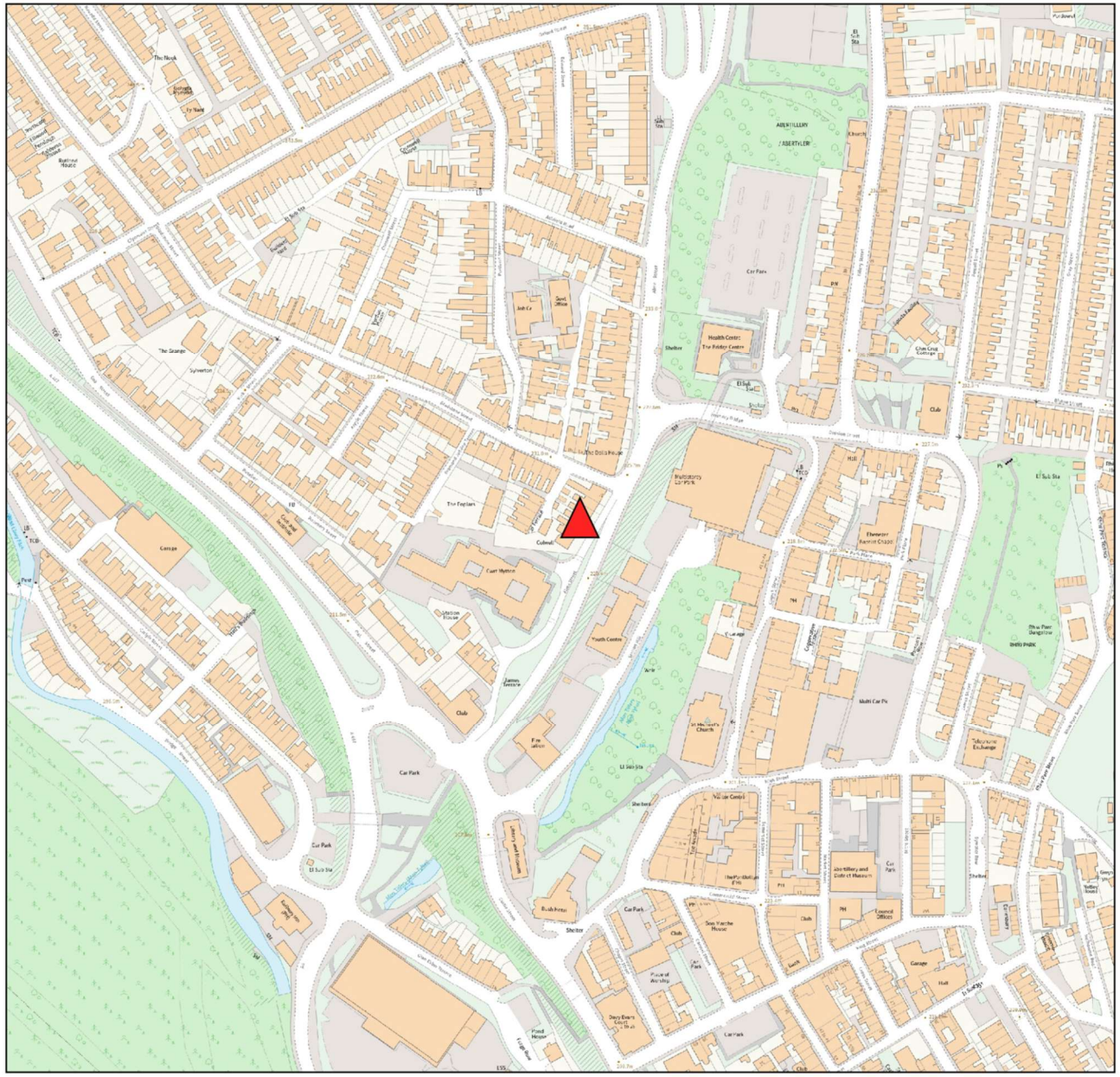

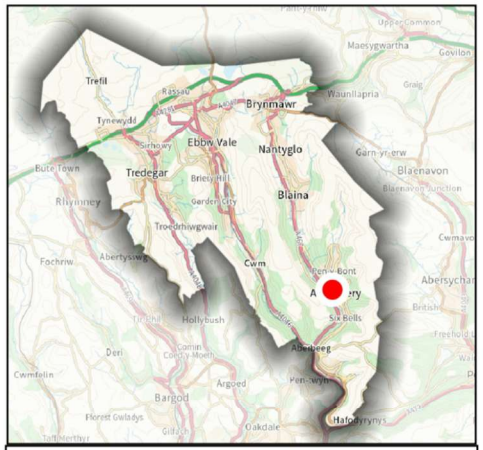

BGBC-47,
12 Alma Street,
Abertillery.

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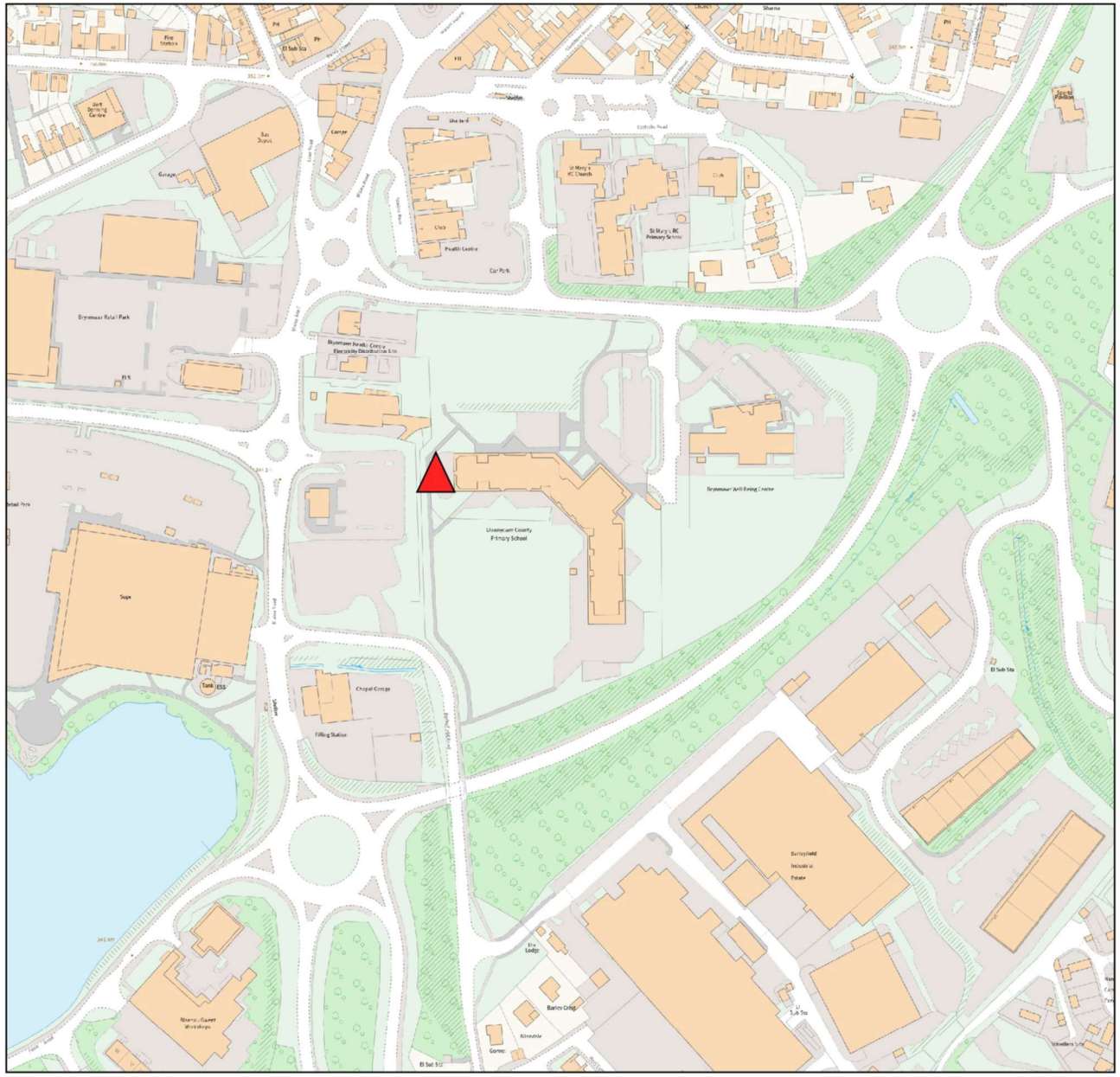

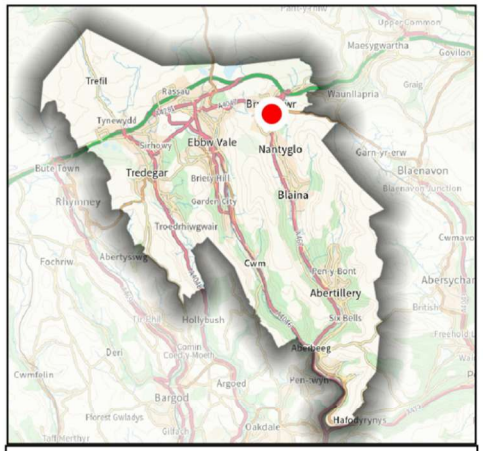

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Blaen Y Cwm Primary School,
Brynmawr.

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Blaenau Gwent

Glossary of Terms

Abbreviation	Description
AQAP	Air Quality Action Plan - A detailed description of measures, outcomes, achievement dates and implementation methods, showing how the LA intends to achieve air quality limit values'
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area – An area where air pollutant concentrations exceed / are likely to exceed the relevant air quality objectives. AQMAs are declared for specific pollutants and objectives
APR	Air quality Annual Progress Report
AURN	Automatic Urban and Rural Network (UK air quality monitoring network)
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DMRB	Design Manual for Roads and Bridges – Air quality screening tool produced by Highways England
FDMS	Filter Dynamics Measurement System
LAQM	Local Air Quality Management
NO_2	Nitrogen Dioxide
NO_X	Nitrogen Oxides
PM_{10}	Airborne particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of 10 µm (micrometres or microns) or less
$PM_{2.5}$	Airborne particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of 2.5 µm or less
QA/QC	Quality Assurance and Quality Control
SO_2	Sulphur Dioxide
ULEV	Ultra Low Emission Vehicle
EV	Electric Vehicle