



Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
2021 Air Quality Progress Report

In fulfilment of Part IV of the Environment Act 1995

Local Air Quality Management

September 2021

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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 2020 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 (PM₁₀) & (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Much of the traditional coal and steel industry that historically populated the Borough has been replaced by a diverse industrial base comprising of businesses such as pharmaceuticals, battery and computer systems, electronic and high tech engineering companies.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

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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 2021 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 2022.

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 a number of sensitive locations including schools within our borough. The results from these new 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:

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1 Actions to Improve Air Quality

Previous Work in Relation to Air Quality

Table 1.2 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 1.2 - 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

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.

2 Air Quality Monitoring Data and Comparison with Air Quality Objectives

Summary of Monitoring Undertaken in 2020

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-Automating Monitoring Sites

Blaenau Gwent CBC undertook diffusion tube monitoring at 27 sites throughout the Borough during 2020, 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 E and individual maps for each monitoring location is provided in Appendix F to this report.

The diffusion tubes are exposed for four week periods in accordance with the National NO₂ exposure calendar. Gradko Environmental was used to analyse and provide data from all of the NO₂ diffusion tubes within Blaenau Gwent during 2020.

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 2020.

Blaenau Gwent CBC does not currently undertake a co-location study for its NO₂ 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 2020 was 0.82.

The covid 19 pandemic did have an impact on our air quality monitoring programme in 2020, we managed to continue monitoring but we were unable to monitor during May 2020 due to a lack of diffusion tubes and the laboratory being closed.

A full audit of all monitoring sites used by Blaenau Gwent CBC was undertaken in September 2021. The audit identified that monitoring was no longer required at two of established monitoring locations. These locations were BGBC-07 and BGBC-23 as we established that the measured levels of nitrogen dioxide at both sites were continuously below the air quality objective.

At the time of writing this report we are in the process of identifying new possible monitoring locations taking into account new and future developments within Blaenau Gwent and to ensure compliance with the most recent air quality guidance. The new monitoring locations, once confirmed, will begin in January 2022.

Table 2.1 – Details of Non Automatic Monitoring Sites

Site Name	LA Reference	Site Type	Location	Easting (X) / Northing (Y)	OS Grid Map Reference	Pollutants Monitored	Within AQMA?	Relevant Exposure? (Y/N with distance (m) to relevant exposure)	Height between 2 to 4 m? (Y/N)	Distance to kerb of nearest road (N/A if not applicable)	Worst-case Location ?	WAQF Start Date
BGBC-01	S1	Near Road	The Darren, Daren-felen Road, Brynmawr	X 319538 Y 211956	SO1911NE	NO ₂	N	Y (on facade)	Y	8m	Y	Jan 1995
BGBC-04	S4	Urban Background	22 Parkhill, Beaufort, Ebbw Vale	X 317298 Y 211287	SO1711SW	NO ₂	N	Y (10m)	Y	N/A	N/A	Jan 1995
BGBC-05	A3	Urban Background	Willow Tree Bungalow, Aberbeeg	X 321139 Y 201114	SO2101SW	NO ₂	N	Y (1m)	Y	10m	N/A	Jan 1995
BGBC-07	A1	Urban Background	Aberbeeg Medical Centre, Aberbeeg	X 320942 Y 202011	SO2002SE	NO ₂	N	Y (18m)	Y	25m	N/A	Nov 1995

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BGBC-13	T2	Roadside	3 Kings Arms Cottages, Trefil, Tredegar	X 312012 Y 212782	SO1212NW	NO ₂	N	Y (on facade)	Y	4m	Y	Oct 2000
BGBC-16	A5	Near road	49 Aberbeeg Road, Aberbeeg	X 321430 Y 202672	SO2102NW	NO ₂	N	Y (on façade)	Y	7m	Y	Oct 2005
BGBC-18	BT1	Roadside	Welfare Hall, Beaufort Hill, Ebbw Vale	X 317543 Y 211688	SO1711NE	NO ₂	N	Y (on façade)	Y	5m	Y	Oct 2005
BGBC-19	BT2	Roadside	42 Beaufort Rise, Ebbw Vale	X 316670 Y 211597	SO1611NE	NO ₂	N	Y (on facade)	Y	3m	Y	Oct 2005
BGBC-20	TR1	Roadside	122 Beaufort Road, Tredegar	X 314858 Y 210240	SO1410SE	NO ₂	N	Y (on façade)	Y	5.5m	Y	Oct 2005

BGBC-21	TR2	Other - Nearest residential premises to busy roundabout on Heads of Valley Road (A465)	14 Bryn Rhosyn, Merthyr Road, Tredegar	X 312846 Y 210586	SO1210NE	NO ₂	N	Y (on façade)	Y	35m	Y	Oct 2005
BGBC-22	BR1	Near road	2 King Street, Brynmawr	X 319562 Y 212128	SO1912SE	NO ₂	N	Y (on façade)	Y	6m	Y	Nov 2005
BGBC-23	C4	Near road	Cwm Conservative Club, Mill Terrace, Cwm	X 318453 Y 205308	SO1805SW	NO ₂	N	Y (on façade)	Y	6m	Y	Jan 2010
BGBC-24	T5	Roadside	4 Glen View, Nantybwich, Tredegar	X 313145 Y 210769	SO1310NW	NO ₂	N	Y (on façade)	Y	5m	Y	Jan 2010
BGBC-25	E1	Near road	Red Rose Care Centre, Park Road, Ebbw Vale	X 316996 Y 207898	SO1607NE	NO ₂	N	Y (on façade)	Y	8m	Y	Jan 2010

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BGBC-26	E2	Other – near road where this is an increase in traffic expected due to major works nearby	2 The Dingle, Ebbw Vale	X 316980 Y 209842	SO1609NE	NO ₂	N	Y (on façade)	Y	10m	Y	Jan 2010
BGBC-27	G1	Other – near road where an increase in traffic expected due to major works nearby	Tyn y Rhyn, Llangynidr Road, Ebbw Vale	X 316720 Y 212796	SO1612NE	NO ₂	N	Y (on façade)	Y	11m	Y	Jan 2014
BGBC-28	R1	Other – near road where an increase in traffic expected due to major works nearby	1 Coates Row, Rassau, Ebbw Vale	X 314488 Y 211642	SO1411NW	NO ₂	N	Y (on façade)	Y	20m	Y	Jan 2014
BGBC-29	n/a	Other- nearest residential properties to new industrial process.	10 Ivy Close, Rassau, Ebbw Vale.	X 315331 Y 211938	SO1511NW	NO ₂	N	Y (on façade)	Y	N/A	Y	Jan 2018

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BGBC-30	n/a	Other- nearest residential properties to new industrial process.	8 Annes Court, Ebbw Vale.	X 316010 Y 210183	SO1610NW	NO ₂	N	Y (on façade)	Y	N/A	Y	Jan 2018
BGBC-31	n/a	Other- nearest residential properties to new industrial process.	18 Maes Morgan, Tredegar.	X 312674 Y 210974	S01210NE	NO ₂	N	Y (on façade)	Y	N/A	Y	Jan 2018
BGBC-32	n/a	School	Ebbw Fawr Learning Campus, Primary School, Ebbw Vale.	X 317392 Y 208313	SO1708SW	NO ₂	N	Y	Y	15m	Y	Jan 2018
BGBC-34	n/a	School	Georgetown Primary School, Oakfield Road, Tredegar.	X 314838 Y 208257	SO1408SE	NO ₂	N	Y	Y	13m	Y	Jan 2018
BGBC-35	n/a	School	Brynbach Primary School, Merthyr Road, Tredegar.	X 313061 Y 210466	SO1310SW	NO ₂	N	Y	Y	9m	Y	Jan 2018

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BGBC-36	n/a	School	St Mary's RC Primary School, Brynmawr.	X 319229 Y 211601	SO1911NW	NO ₂	N	Y	Y	10m	Y	Jan 2018
BGBC-37	n/a	School	Abertillery Learning Campus, Tillery Street, Abertillery.	X 321893 Y 204604	SO2104NE	NO ₂	N	Y	Y	54m	Y	Jan 2018
BGBC-38	n/a	School	Deighton Primary School, Stockton Way, Tredegar.	X 313914 Y 209839	S01309NE	NO ₂	N	Y	Y	10m	Y	Jan 2020
BGBC-39	n/a	School	Six Bells Primary Campus, Abertillery Learning Community, Six Bells Road, Six Bells, Abertillery,	X 322050 Y 202976	SO2202NW	NO ₂	N	Y	Y	21m	Y	Jan 2020

2020 Air Quality Monitoring Results

Table 2.2 – Annual Mean NO₂ Monitoring Results 2020

Site Name	Location	Within AQMA?	Monitoring period (months)	Data Capture 2020 %	Annual Mean Concentrations 2020 (µg/m ³) Adjusted for bias (0.82)	Air Quality Objective Annual Mean for Nitrogen Dioxide (µg/m ³)
BGBC-01	The Darren, Daren-felen Road, Brynmawr	N	12	92	10.75	40
BGBC-04	22 Parkhill, Beaufort, Ebbw Vale	N	12	92	5.92	40
BGBC-05	Willow Tree Bungalow, Aberbeeg	N	12	92	9.18	40
BGBC-07	Aberbeeg Medical Centre, Aberbeeg	N	12	92	10.32	40
BGBC-13	3 Kings Arms Cottages, Trefil, Tredegar	N	12	92	3.58	40
BGBC-16	49 Aberbeeg Road, Aberbeeg	N	12	92	15.43	40
BGBC-18	Welfare Hall, Beaufort Hill, Ebbw Vale	N	12	92	12.94	40

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BGBC-19	42 Beaufort Rise, Ebbw Vale	N	12	92	17.02	40
BGBC-20	122 Beaufort Road, Tredegar	N	12	92	16.13	40
BGBC-21	14 Bryn Rhosyn, Merthyr Road, Tredegar	N	12	92	9.93	40
BGBC-22	2 King Street, Brynmawr	N	12	92	10.50	40
BGBC-23	Cwm Conservative Club, Mill Terrace, Cwm	N	12	92	10.00	40
BGBC-24	4 Glen View, Nantybawch, Tredegar	N	12	92	9.61	40
BGBC-25	Red Rose Care Centre, Park Road, Ebbw Vale	N	12	83	8.20	40
BGBC-26	2 The Dingle, Ebbw Vale	N	12	92	10.97	40
BGBC-27	Tyn y Rhyn, Llangynidr Road, Ebbw Vale	N	12	92	6.24	40
BGBC-28	1 Coates Row, Rassau, Ebbw Vale	N	12	92	5.98	40
BGBC-29	10 Ivy Close, Rassau, Ebbw Vale.	N	12	92	5.62	40
BGBC-30	8 Annes Court, Ebbw Vale.	N	12	83	6.24	40
BGBC-31	18 Maes Morgan, Tredegar.	N	12	92	4.96	40

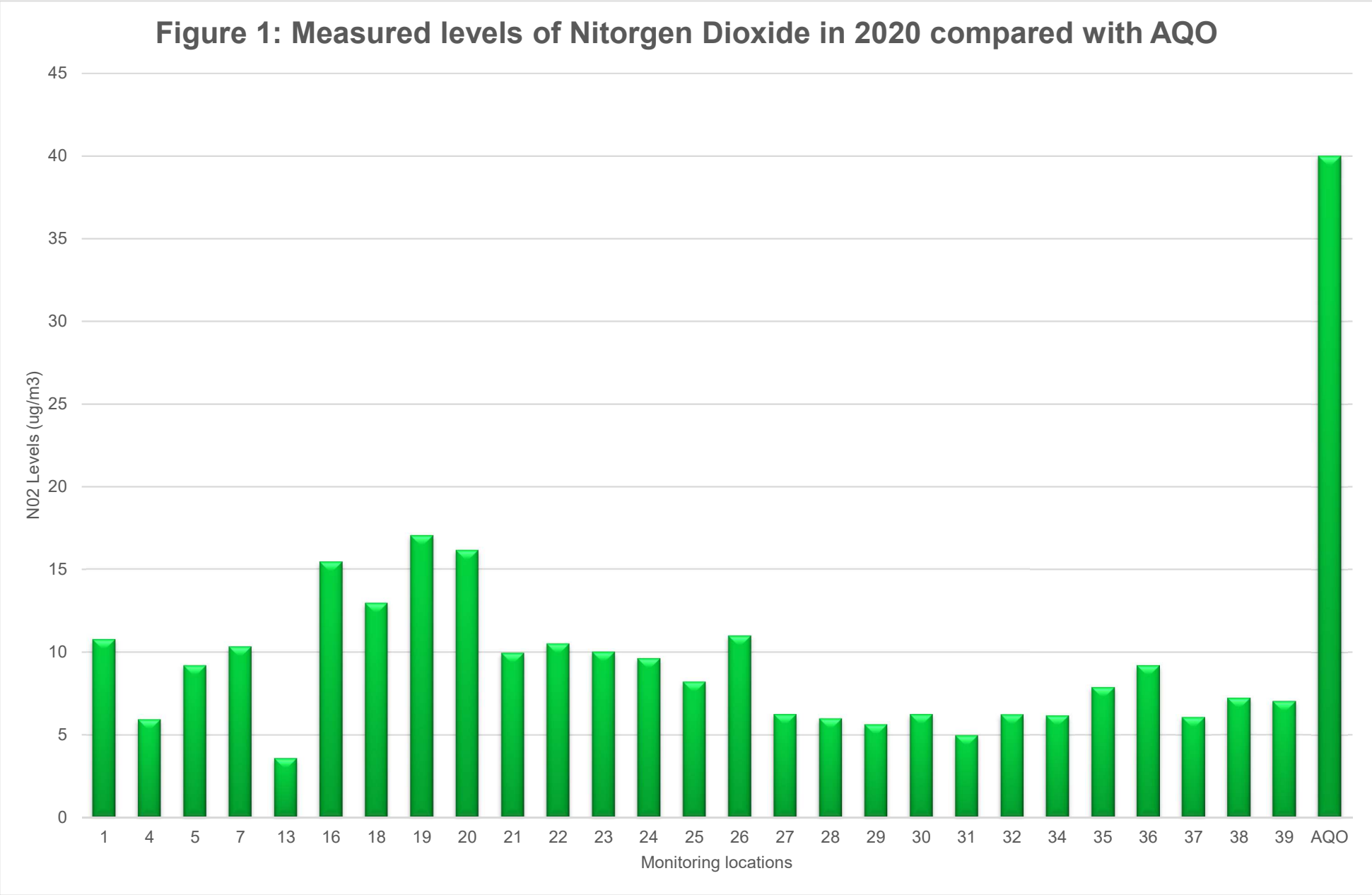
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BGBC-32	Ebbw Fawr Learning Campus, Primary School, Ebbw Vale.	N	12	92	6.22	40
BGBC-34	Georgetown Primary School, Oakfield Road, Tredegar.	N	12	92	6.15	40
BGBC-35	Brynbach Primary School, Merthyr Road, Tredegar.	N	12	92	7.85	40
BGBC-36	St Mary's RC Primary School, Brynmawr.	N	12	92	9.16	40
BGBC-37	Abertillery Learning Campus, Tillery Street, Abertillery.	N	12	83	6.06	40
BGBC-38	Deighton Primary School, Stockton Way, Tredegar	N	12	92	7.20	40
BGBC-39	Six Bells Primary Campus, Abertillery Learning Community, Six Bells Road, Six Bells, Abertillery,	N	12	83	7.01	40

The results provided in table 2.2 above identify that the Nitrogen Dioxide levels at each of the monitoring sites were considerably below the current Annual Mean Air Quality Objective of 40 µg/m³.

Figure 1 below provides a graphical representation of the 2020 measured levels of Nitrogen Dioxide at each monitoring location in comparison with the Air Quality Objective for this pollutant.

Figure 1: Measured levels of Nitrogen Dioxide in 2020 compared with AQO



Comparison of 2020 Monitoring Results with Previous Years and the Air Quality Objectives

2.1.3 Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)

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 27 sites within the Borough for the period of 2020 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 2020 so none of the data has been annualised.

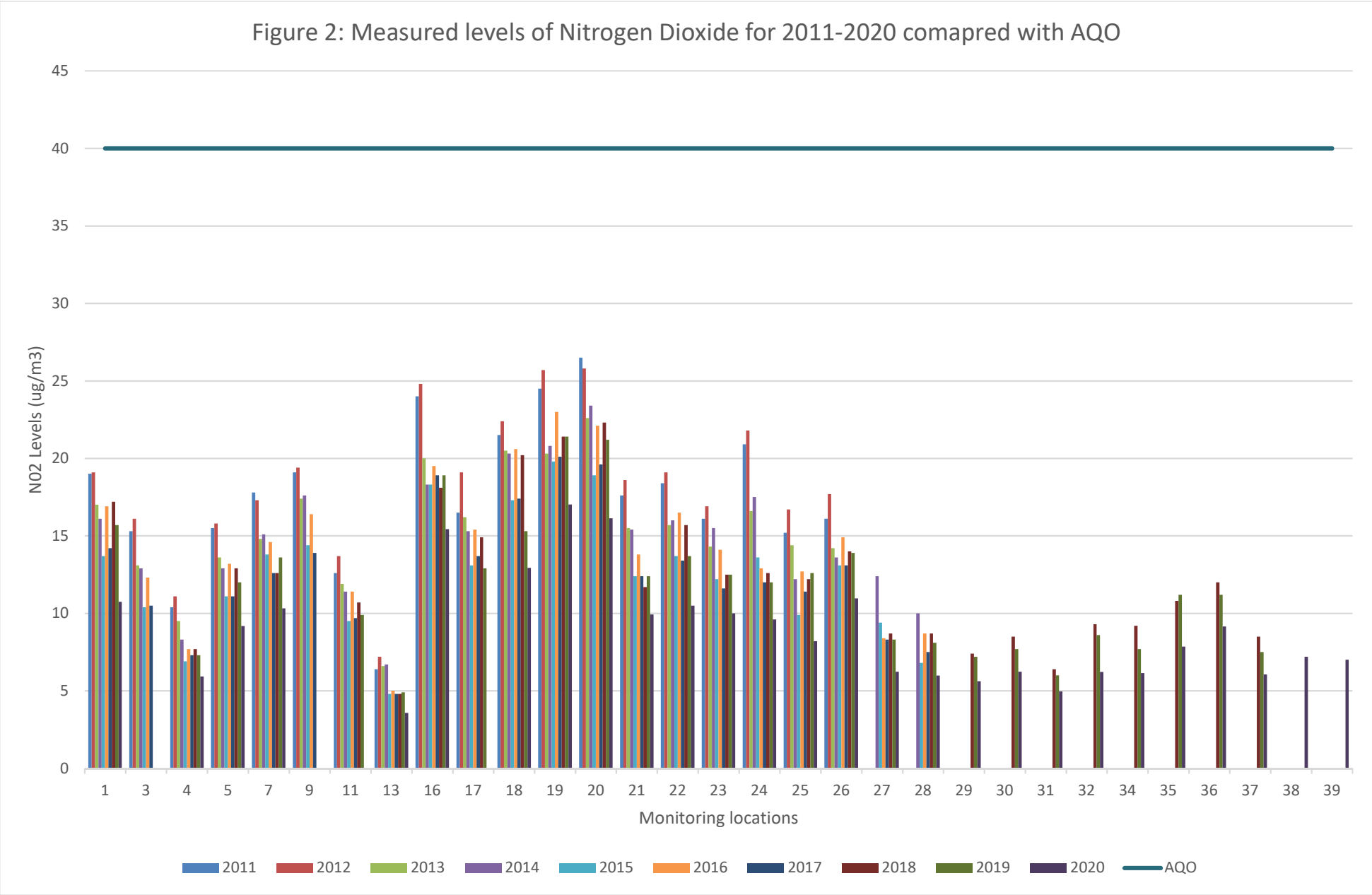
Table 2.3 provides a comparison of the results for the period of 2020 with the results of previous years monitoring (where available) for the years 2012 - 2020. The results identify that there has been a decrease in the measured levels of nitrogen dioxide in 2020 when compared with the 2019 levels at all of the twenty-seven monitoring locations. This is likely a result of the impact of the covid 19 pandemic and the all Wales and local lockdown restrictions that were in place at various times throughout the year.

Table 2.3 Results of Nitrogen Dioxide Diffusion Tubes for 2012 through to and including 2020.

Site Name	Annual Mean Concentrations ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)								
	2012 Not adjusted for bias	2013 Adjusted for bias (0.87)	2014 Adjusted for bias (0.97)	2015 Adjusted for bias (0.95)	2016 Adjusted for bias (1.03)	2017 Adjusted for bias (0.96)	2018 Adjusted for bias (0.89)	2019 Adjusted for bias (0.89)	2020 Adjusted for Bias (0.82)
BGBC-01	19.1	17	16.1	13.7	16.9	14.2	17.2	15.7	10.75
BGBC-03	16.1	13.1	12.9	10.4	12.3	10.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
BGBC-04	11.1	9.5	8.3	6.9	7.7	7.3	7.7	7.3	5.92
BGBC-05	15.8	13.6	12.9	11.1	13.2	11.1	12.9	12	9.18
BGBC-07	17.3	14.8	15.1	13.8	14.6	12.6	12.6	13.6	10.32
BGBC-09	19.4	17.4	17.6	14.4	16.4	13.9	n/a	n/a	n/a
BGBC-11	13.7	11.9	11.4	9.5	11.4	9.7	10.7	9.9	n/a
BGBC-13	7.2	6.6	6.7	4.8	5	4.8	4.8	4.9	3.58
BGBC-16	24.8	20	18.3	18.3	19.5	18.9	18.1	18.9	15.43
BGBC-17	19.1	16.2	15.3	13.1	15.4	13.7	14.9	12.9	n/a
BGBC-18	22.4	20.5	20.3	17.3	20.6	17.4	20.2	15.3	12.94
BGBC-19	25.7	20.3	20.8	19.8	23	20.1	21.4	21.4	17.02
BGBC-20	25.8	22.6	23.4	18.9	22.1	19.6	22.3	21.2	16.13
BGBC-21	18.6	15.5	15.4	12.4	13.8	12.4	11.7	12.4	9.93
BGBC-22	19.1	15.7	16	13.7	16.5	13.4	15.7	13.7	10.50
BGBC-23	16.9	14.3	15.5	12.2	14.1	11.6	12.5	12.5	10.00
BGBC-24	21.8	16.6	17.5	13.6	12.9	12	12.6	12	9.61
BGBC-25	16.7	14.4	12.2	9.9	12.7	11.4	12.2	12.6	8.20
BGBC-26	17.7	14.2	13.6	13.1	14.9	13.1	14	13.9	10.97

BGBC-27	n/a	n/a	12.4	9.4	8.4	8.3	8.7	8.3	6.24
BGBC-28	n/a	n/a	10	6.8	8.7	7.5	8.7	8.1	5.98
BGBC-29	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	7.4	7.2	5.62
BGBC-30	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8.5	7.7	6.24
BGBC-31	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6.4	6	4.96
BGBC-32	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	9.3	8.6	6.22
BGBC-34	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	9.2	7.7	6.15
BGBC-35	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	10.8	11.2	7.85
BGBC-36	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	12	11.2	9.16
BGBC-37	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8.5	7.5	6.06
BGBC-38	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	7.20
BGBC-39	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	7.01

Figure 2: Measured levels of Nitrogen Dioxide for 2011-2020 compared with AQO



2.1.4 Particulate Matter (PM₁₀)

Blaenau Gwent CBC does not currently undertake any monitoring for particulate matter (PM₁₀).

2.1.5 Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5})

Blaenau Gwent CBC does not currently undertake any monitoring for particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) and have no plans to do so in the near future.

2.1.6 Other Pollutants Monitored

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

Summary of Compliance with AQS Objectives as of 2020

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.

Construction works are continuing on the A465 Heads of the Valleys Road, Section 2 Brynmawr to Gilwern, Dualling scheme.

Industrial / Fugitive or Uncontrolled Sources / Commercial Sources

Blaenau Gwent CBC confirms that there are no 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 within 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 are no new biomass combustion plant and there are no areas of significant domestic solid fuel burning within the local authority area.

Other Sources

Blaenau Gwent CBC confirms that during 2020 there were no significant pollution incidents that would impact on local air quality.

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.

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 1000m² floor area or 1 hectare if the application is in outline

Table 3.1: Applications for Major Developments Received and Approved During 2020

Planning Reference	Type of development	Location	Potential Impact on Local Air Quality
C/2019/0346	Affordable housing development of 23 dwellings including new access road, landscaping and associated engineering and drainage works.	Glanffrwd Court Ebbw Vale	Low
C/2020/0043	Residential development (28) and associated works	Hill Crest View, Abertillery	Low
C/2020/0106	Construction of new packaging line building, retaining wall and covered pedestrian walkway linking new packaging line building with new car park	Unit 23-24 Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate Tredegar	Low
C/2019/0330	The change of use of existing buildings from Education and Training Centre to B2 Industrial use for the recycling and recovery of WEEE (Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment) and associated materials and products.	Unit 2 Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate, Tredegar	Low

Major Planning Applications Approved 2020

None of the above major planning applications that were received and approved in 2020 were considered to have a potential negative impact on air quality within the Blaenau Gwent area.

Major Planning Applications 2021

At the time of writing this report Blaenau Gwent CBC has received a planning application for a glass bottle manufacturing plant on the Rassau Industrial Estate, Ebbw Vale, which has been identified as having the potential to impact on local air quality.

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 and at this time does not propose to do so as all of our monitoring locations are significantly below the air quality standards.

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

Local Authorities are now required to produce individual transport plans however the South East Wales Valleys Authorities (Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taff and Torfaen) got together produced a joint plan that was published in January 2015.

The South East Wales Valleys Local Transport Plan (January 2015) can be viewed at the following website:

<http://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Resident/ParkingRoadsandTravel/Travel/TransportSchemesandPolicies/TransportPolicyandlocalTransportPlan.aspx>

The local transport plan sets down the vision and objectives for transport in the SE Wales Valleys area and provides a short and long term programme for interventions to work towards achieving these goals. The short term programme sets down those schemes that are priorities for 5 years up to 2020. The longer term programme identifies aspirations up to 2030.

Part of the process of the development of the Local Transport Plan requires the production of a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) which will give consideration to air quality issues.

The Strategic Environmental Assessment Baseline Study Report and Scoping Report are also available at the above website.

Active Travel Plans and Strategies

As a requirement of the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 Blaenau Gwent CBC has recently developed an integrated network map (INM) that identifies the proposed improvements to the Borough's active travel network. This has been approved by the Welsh Government, who have provided funding in 2018/19 for the council to develop and design proposals identified within the INM and Blaenau Gwent CBC will be submitting bids for delivery funding in future years.

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 with Welsh Government over the past 12 months the 5 local Authorities in Greater Gwent (Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen, Monmouthshire, Caerphilly and Newport) have secured £4M funding under (ENRaW) on a range of projects and ways of working to protect and enhance the areas natural environment. The agreed delivery plans will provide a regional approach to Green Infrastructure across the Greater Gwent Area, as well as providing additional of site based initiatives such as woodland management, urban tree planting, community engagement etc.

Climate Change Strategies

As part of its commitment to corporate contribution towards the reduction of greenhouse gases emissions from all its activities and as part of the Climate Change programme Blaenau Gwent CBC has developed an Energy Policy to ensure the effective and efficient use and management of energy.

The Energy Policy compliments the seven core values of the Councils Community plan and contributes to the overall strategic aims of the Local Authority.

The Energy Policy was produced in 2012 and was due to be reviewed and updated however due to staff resource issues this has not happened and there is currently no timescale in place for when this work will be done. A copy of the Energy Policy was provided in the 2017 Air Quality Progress Report.

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 2020. 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 2022.

It is proposed that the results of monitoring carried out during the calendar year of 2021 will be presented in the 2022 Air Quality Progress Report which will be prepared as part of the Updating and Screening Assessment process.

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Capita Symonds, (2011), Travel In Greater Gwent 2010 – Summary Report, Capita Symonds, Cwmbran.

DEFRA, (2009), Local Air Quality Management - Technical Guidance LAQM.TG(09), DEFRA.

Air Quality Review and Assessment Helpdesk Website, <http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/>

Nitrogen Dioxide Diffusion Tube Precision Results for Laboratories. [Precision and Accuracy | LAQM \(defra.gov.uk\)](#)

Air PT Scheme results for Laboratory- [QA QC Framework | LAQM \(defra.gov.uk\)](#)

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: Impact of Covid -19 upon LAQM

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

Appendix F: Individual location plans for all diffusion tubes within Blaenau Gwent for 2020

Glossary of terms

Appendix A: Monthly Diffusion Tube Monitoring Results

Table A.1 – Full Monthly Diffusion Tube Results for 2020 ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)

SITE	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Mean-Raw data	Annual Mean-Bias adjusted (0.82)
BGBC-01	15.52	9.97	12.95	15.17	x	14.44	6.48	10.88	16.90	12.76	18.95	10.20	13.11	10.75
BGBC-04	11.10	7.76	8.03	5.24	x	4.45	4.08	3.32	6.14	7.09	13.88	8.34	7.22	5.92
BGBC-05	15.24	10.10	10.62	9.09	x	8.07	7.63	6.32	12.44	12.60	16.46	14.63	11.20	9.18
BGBC-07	19.80	14.09	11.94	9.05	x	8.29	8.69	6.37	11.95	14.30	17.84	16.15	12.59	10.32
BGBC-13	6.85	6.11	5.87	4.08	x	3.30	2.12	2.65	4.28	4.57	2.93	5.26	4.37	3.58
BGBC-16	27.57	23.52	17.97	11.05	x	15.29	15.10	9.65	19.42	18.48	26.75	22.27	18.82	15.43
BGBC-18	20.94	17.79	14.48	10.64	x	10.90	8.92	9.54	19.59	17.73	25.51	17.63	15.79	12.94
BGBC-19	27.04	22.00	19.49	17.89	x	18.66	13.05	14.52	23.34	20.58	29.92	21.84	20.76	17.02
BGBC-20	22.49	20.18	19.79	19.10	x	21.05	13.27	14.14	21.44	21.73	23.50	19.82	19.68	16.13

BGBC-21	16.63	14.80	13.63	9.96	x	8.33	9.20	7.99	13.51	11.22	16.83	11.23	12.12	9.93
BGBC-22	18.86	13.89	12.50	13.26	x	11.56	6.16	9.58	12.32	10.88	18.54	13.97	12.87	10.50
BGBC-23	15.40	12.18	11.20	11.04	x	9.71	6.92	6.01	11.68	13.13	18.80	18.09	12.20	10.00
BGBC-24	19.10	12.40	11.38	8.90	x	9.33	7.46	5.78	12.37	11.46	16.71	14.00	11.72	9.61
BGBC-25	14.91	9.16	8.57	7.04	x	8.92	7.13	6.27	x	10.72	14.72	12.54	10.00	8.20
BGBC-26	20.91	17.55	10.81	8.92	x	8.63	7.96	7.30	13.88	12.85	18.67	19.78	13.39	10.97
BGBC-27	10.99	8.21	7.45	5.33	x	5.90	6.12	4.48	7.88	7.87	10.81	8.77	7.62	6.24
BGBC-28	11.29	8.27	7.84	6.74	x	5.62	4.33	3.65	7.28	7.10	10.86	7.37	7.30	5.98
BGBC-29	8.83	7.49	7.61	6.58	x	4.92	4.27	3.47	6.77	7.13	10.60	7.79	6.86	5.62
BGBC-30	11.19	5.86	7.92	5.51	x	x	3.94	4.12	8.60	8.17	11.91	8.96	7.62	6.24
BGBC-31	7.28	6.83	7.00	5.17	x	4.72	3.82	3.94	5.71	6.44	9.67	5.92	6.05	4.96
BGBC-32	10.14	8.64	7.66	5.82	x	5.04	3.99	3.13	8.21	6.27	14.64	9.95	7.59	6.22
BGBC-34	10.97	9.32	7.57	6.07	x	4.60	4.31	3.26	6.77	7.64	12.42	9.74	7.51	6.15

BGBC-35	14.56	10.65	10.40	8.17	x	6.81	6.80	4.87	8.94	9.88	15.07	9.22	9.58	7.85
BGBC-36	16.75	13.38	11.76	8.38	x	7.33	6.44	5.74	11.85	11.27	16.82	13.29	11.18	9.16
BGBC-37	10.34	8.12	8.26	5.87	x	5.15	4.54	3.12	7.68	7.50	x	13.42	7.40	6.06
BGBC-38	13.74	9.33	9.11	6.79	x	6.12	5.01	3.60	8.36	8.19	14.54	11.93	8.79	7.20
BGBC-39	15.44	10.16	9.02	7.39	x	5.44	5.70	4.24	8.55	8.28	x	11.25	8.55	7.01

Notes:

Exceedances of the NO₂ annual mean objective of 40µg/m³ are shown in **bold**.

NO₂ annual means exceeding 60µg/m³, indicating a potential exceedance of the NO₂ 1-hour mean objective are shown in **bold and underlined**.

X means the diffusion tube was missing.

Please note no monitoring was carried out in May 2020 as the laboratory we use for analysis was closed and we did not have a supply of diffusion tubes to use, these issues were directly related to the covid 19 pandemic.

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 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 should then be reviewed and updated where necessary at least every five years.

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 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (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 (NO₂)	200µg/m ³ not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year	1-hour mean	31.12.2005
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)	40µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2005
Particulate Matter (PM₁₀)	50µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year	24-hour mean	31.12.2010
Particulate Matter (PM₁₀)	40µg/m ³	Annual mean	31.12.2010
Sulphur dioxide (SO₂)	350µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 24 times a year	1-hour mean	31.12.2004
Sulphur dioxide (SO₂)	125µg/m ³ , not to be exceeded more than 3 times a year	24-hour mean	31.12.2004
Sulphur dioxide (SO₂)	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 of our diffusion tubes in 2020 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 2020 Diffusion Tube Monitoring Calendar.

Diffusion Tube Annualisation

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 0.82 to the 2020 monitoring data. A summary of bias adjustment factors used by Blaenau Gwent CBC over the past five 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
2020	National	03/21	0.82
2019	National		0.89
2018	National		0.89
2017	National		0.96
2016	National		1.03

Please see below a screen shot of the bias adjustment factor spreadsheet used.

NO₂ Fall-off with Distance from the Road

No diffusion tube NO₂ monitoring locations within Blaenau Gwent CBC required distance correction during 2020.

QA/QC of Automatic Monitoring

Blaenau Gwent CBC does not undertake any automatic monitoring.

Database_Diffusion_Tube_Bias_Factors_v03_21 v2 - Excel

Griffin, Tim

National Diffusion Tube Bias Adjustment Factor Spreadsheet

Spreadsheet Version Number: 03/21

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 June 2021

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

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

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

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 factor³ shown in blue at the foot of the final column.

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

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

If a year is not shown, we have no data.

If you have your own co-location study then see footnote⁴. If uncertain what to do then contact the Local Air Quality Management Helpdesk at LAQMHelpdesk@bureauveritas.com or 0800 0327953

Analysed By ¹	Method ²	Year ³	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 ⁴	Bias Adjustment Factor (A) (Cm/Dm)
Staffordshire Scientific Services	20% TEA in water	2020	R	Tameside MBC	12	45	31	45.0%	G	0.69
Aberdeen Scientific Services	20% TEA in water	2020								Overall Factor ³ (7 studies)
Edinburgh Scientific Services	50% TEA in acetone	2020								Use 0.77
Glasgow Scientific Services	20% TEA in water	2020								Use 0.88
Gradko	20% TEA in water	2020								Overall Factor ³ (10 studies)
Gradko	20% TEA in water	2020								Use 0.96
Gradko	50% TEA in acetone	2020								Use 0.81
Lambeth Scientific Services	50% TEA in acetone	2020								Overall Factor ³ (14 studies)
Milton Keynes Council	20% TEA in water	2020								Use 0.82
SOCOTEC Didcot	20% TEA in water	2020								Overall Factor ³ (5 studies)
SOCOTEC Didcot	50% TEA in acetone	2020								Use 0.96
SOCOTEC Glasgow	20% TEA in water	2020								Overall Factor ³ (4 studies)
SOCOTEC Glasgow	50% TEA in acetone	2020								Use 0.83
Somerset County Council	20% TEA in water	2020								Overall Factor ³ (6 studies)
South Yorkshire Air Quality Samplers	50% TEA in acetone	2020								Use 0.74
Staffordshire Scientific Services	20% TEA in water	2020								Overall Factor ³ (22 studies)
Tayside Scientific Services	20% TEA in water	2020								Use 0.77
										Overall Factor ³ (1 study)
										Use 0.79
										Overall Factor ³ (1 study)
										Use 0.79
										Overall Factor ³ (2 studies)
										Use 0.76
										Overall Factor ³ (1 study)
										Use 0.77
										Overall Factor ³ (15 studies)
										Use 0.85
										Overall Factor ³ (1 study)
										Use 0.75

¹ For Casella Stanger/Bureau Veritas (NDT Bureau Veritas Labs) use Gradko 50% TEA in Acetone.
² For Casella Seal/GMSSG/Casella CRE/Bureau Veritas Labs/Eurofins use Environmental Scientific Groups.
³ From 2011 for Environmental Scientific Groups use ESG Glasgow.
⁴ From 2011 for Harwell Scientific Services use ESG Didcot.

Collocation Data Revisions

Ready Filter Mode Average: 0.83 Count: 109 Sum: 90.27

19°C Partly sunny 16:58 17/09/2021

Appendix D: Impact of COVID-19 upon LAQM

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted air quality at local, regional and national scales and presented challenges to Local Authorities in undertaking statutory LAQM duties. This section outlines the impact of COVID 19 on air quality in Blaenau Gwent CBC during 2020. Further detail on air quality impacts at the national scale can be viewed through the [Reports & Seminars section of airquality.gov.wales](#).

Impacts of COVID-19 on Air Quality within Blaenau Gwent CBC

The results at all of our 27 monitoring locations for nitrogen dioxide decreased when compared to the results from 2019. We suspect that this is a direct result of the Covid 19 pandemic, particularly the national and local lockdown restrictions.

Opportunities Presented by COVID-19 upon LAQM within Blaenau Gwent CBC

No LAQM related opportunities have arisen as a consequence of COVID-19 within Blaenau Gwent CBC.

Challenges and Constraints Imposed by COVID-19 upon LAQM within Blaenau Gwent CBC

- Passive Monitoring – Storage of Tubes- Tubes stored for longer than normal but adhering to laboratory guidance- **impact rating small**. There was a period in 2020 when the laboratory we use for the analysis of our diffusion tubes was either closed or could not send out new diffusion tubes so we had to store the sampled tubes for longer than we would normally do.
- Passive Monitoring – Data Capture (%)- More than 75% data capture- **impact rating none**. Although we managed to maintain a high level of data capture it was still lower than in previous years.
- Staff redeployment and increased anti-social behaviour due to national and local lockdown restrictions. Throughout the pandemic environmental health officers in the

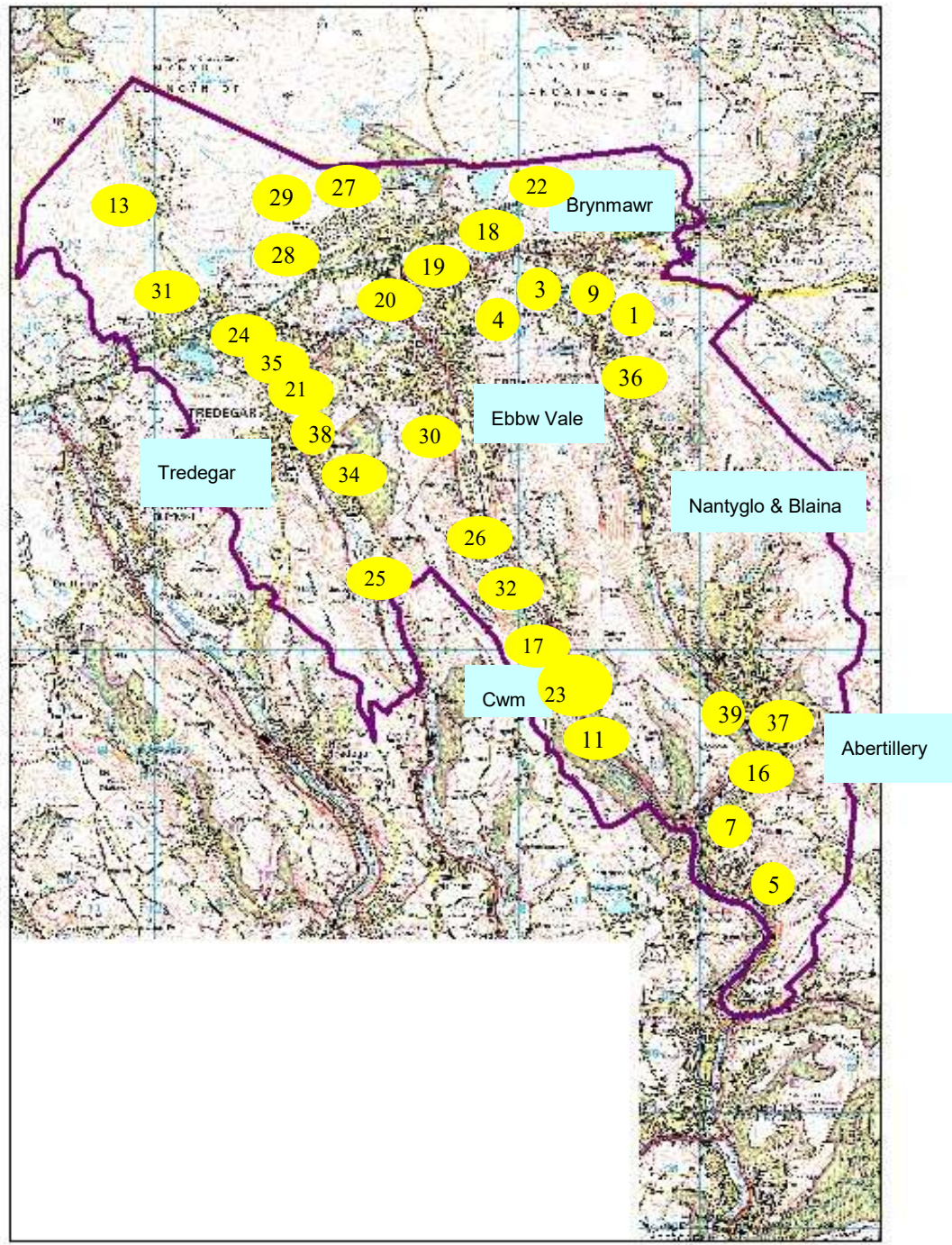
environmental protection team, normally involved with air quality work, where redeployed to our infectious disease team to help support Blaenau Gwent CBC response in dealing with the covid 19 pandemic in our area.

The impacts as presented above are aligned with the criteria as defined in Table E.1, with professional judgement considered as part of their application.

Table E.1 – Impact Matrix

Category	Impact Rating: None	Impact Rating: Small	Impact Rating: Medium	Impact Rating: High
Automatic Monitoring – Data Capture (%)	More than 75% data capture	50 to 75% data capture	25 to 50% data capture	Less than 25% data capture
Automatic Monitoring – QA/QC Regime	Adherence to requirements as defined in LAQM.TG16	Routine calibrations taken place frequently but not to normal regime. Audits undertaken alongside service and maintenance programmes	Routine calibrations taken place infrequently and service and maintenance regimes adhered to. No audit achieved	Routine calibrations not undertaken within extended period (e.g. 3 to 4 months). Interruption to service and maintenance regime and no audit achieved
Passive Monitoring – Data Capture (%)	More than 75% data capture	50 to 75% data capture	25 to 50% data capture	Less than 25% data capture
Passive Monitoring – Bias Adjustment Factor	Bias adjustment undertaken as normal	<25% impact on normal number of available bias adjustment colocation studies (2020 vs 2019)	25-50% impact on normal number of available bias adjustment studies (2020 vs 2019)	>50% impact on normal number of available bias adjustment studies (2020 vs 2019) and/or applied bias adjustment factor studies not considered representative of local regime
Passive Monitoring – Adherence to Changeover Dates	Defra diffusion tube exposure calendar adhered to	Tubes left out for two exposure periods	Tubes left out for three exposure periods	Tubes left out for more than three exposure periods
Passive Monitoring – Storage of Tubes	Tubes stored in accordance with laboratory guidance and analysed promptly.	Tubes stored for longer than normal but adhering to laboratory guidance	Tubes unable to be stored according to be laboratory guidance but analysed prior to expiry date	Tubes stored for so long that they were unable to be analysed prior to expiry date. Data unable to be used
AQAP – Measure Implementation	Unaffected	Short delay (<6 months) in development of a new AQAP, but is on-going	Long delay (>6 months) in development of a new AQAP, but is on-going	No progression in development of a new AQAP
AQAP – New AQAP Development	Unaffected	Short delay (<6 months) in development of a new AQAP, but is on-going	Long delay (>6 months) in development of a new AQAP, but is on-going	No progression in development of a new AQAP

Appendix E: Blaenau Gwent boundary area and diffusion tube location plan



Appendix F: Individual location plans for all diffusion tubes within Blaenau Gwent 2020

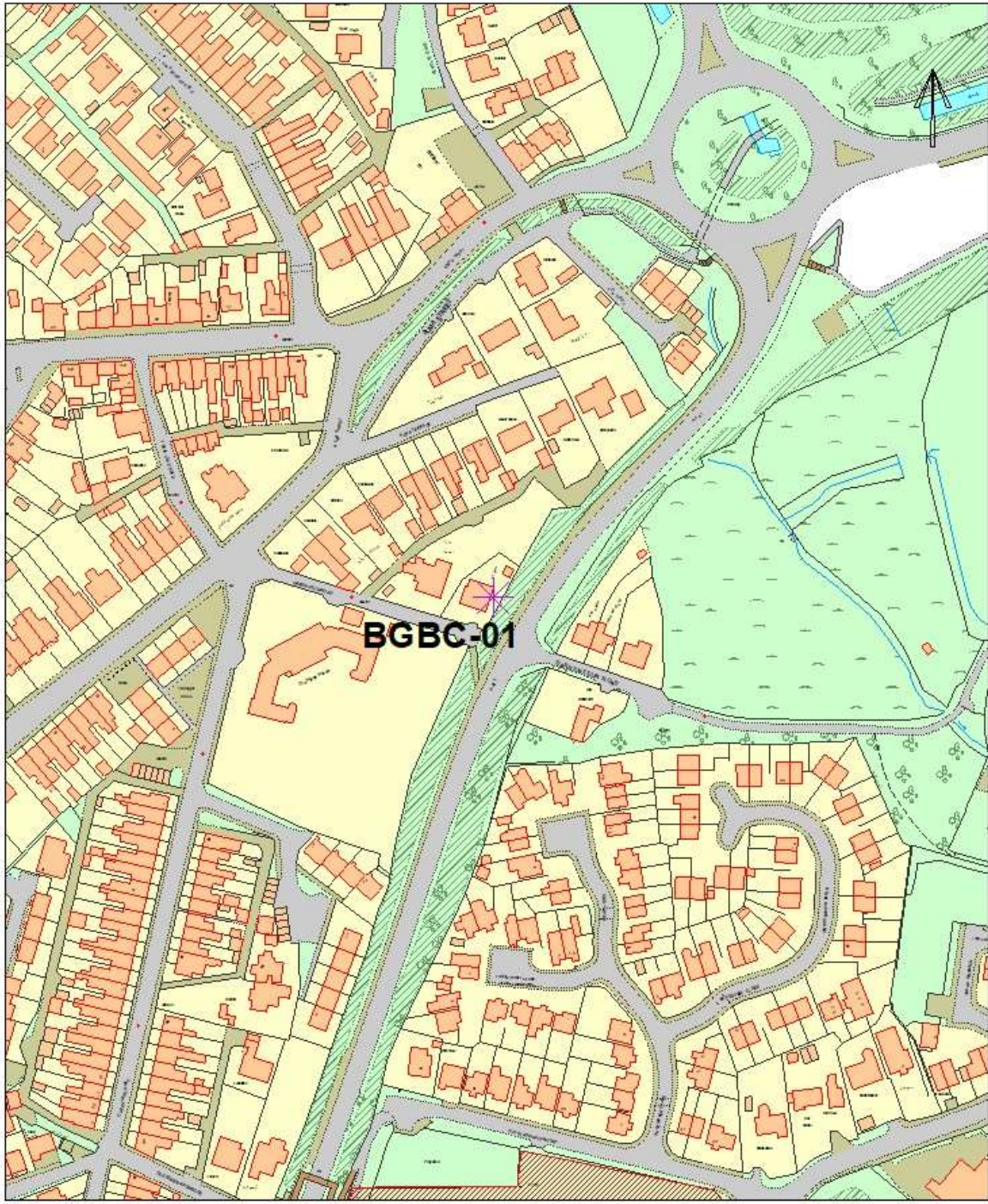


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

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

Easting: 319540 **Northing:** 211953

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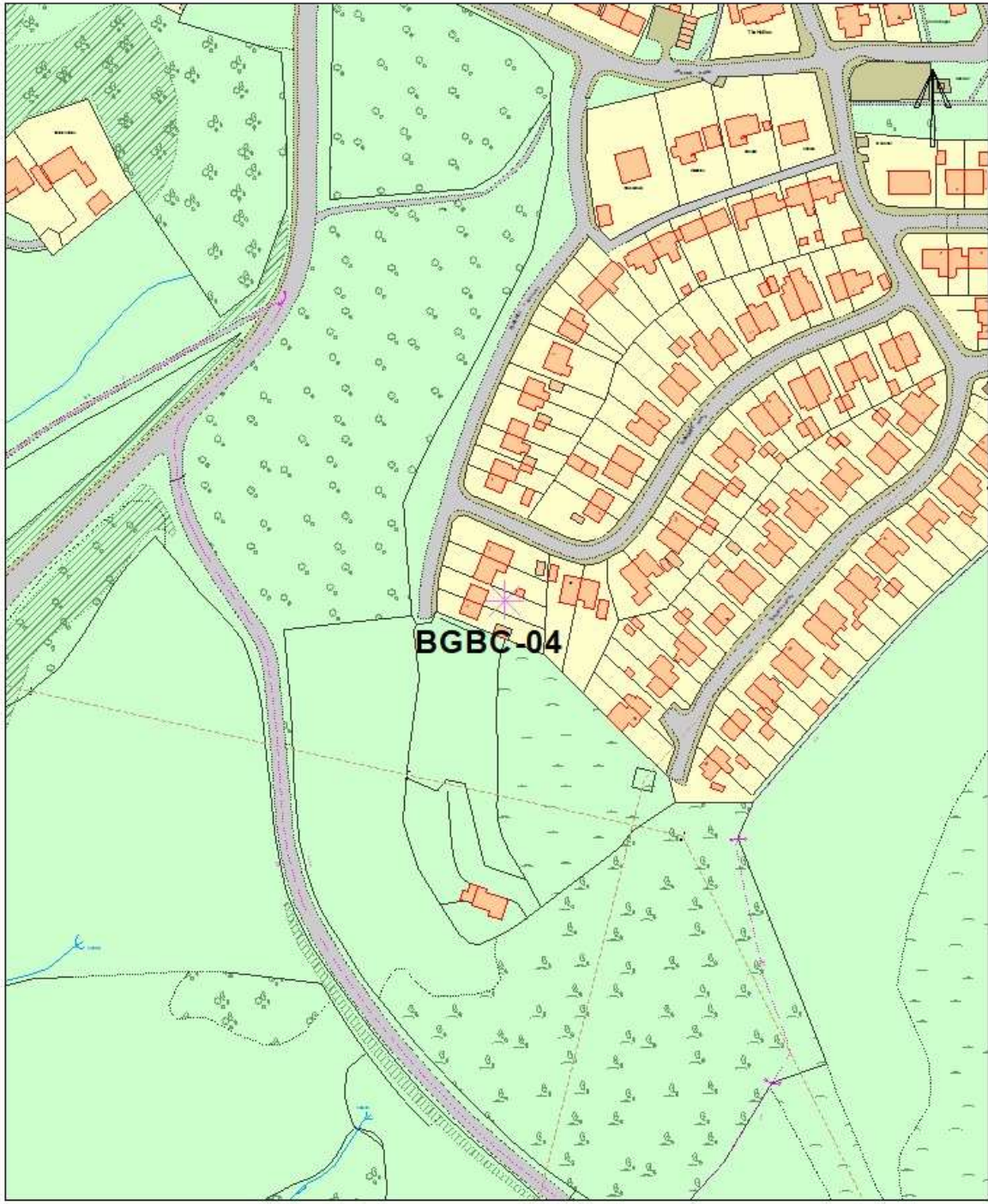


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

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

Easting: 317307 **Northing:** 211285

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Y mae atgynhychu heb awdurdod yn tori Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGBC - LA09002L*



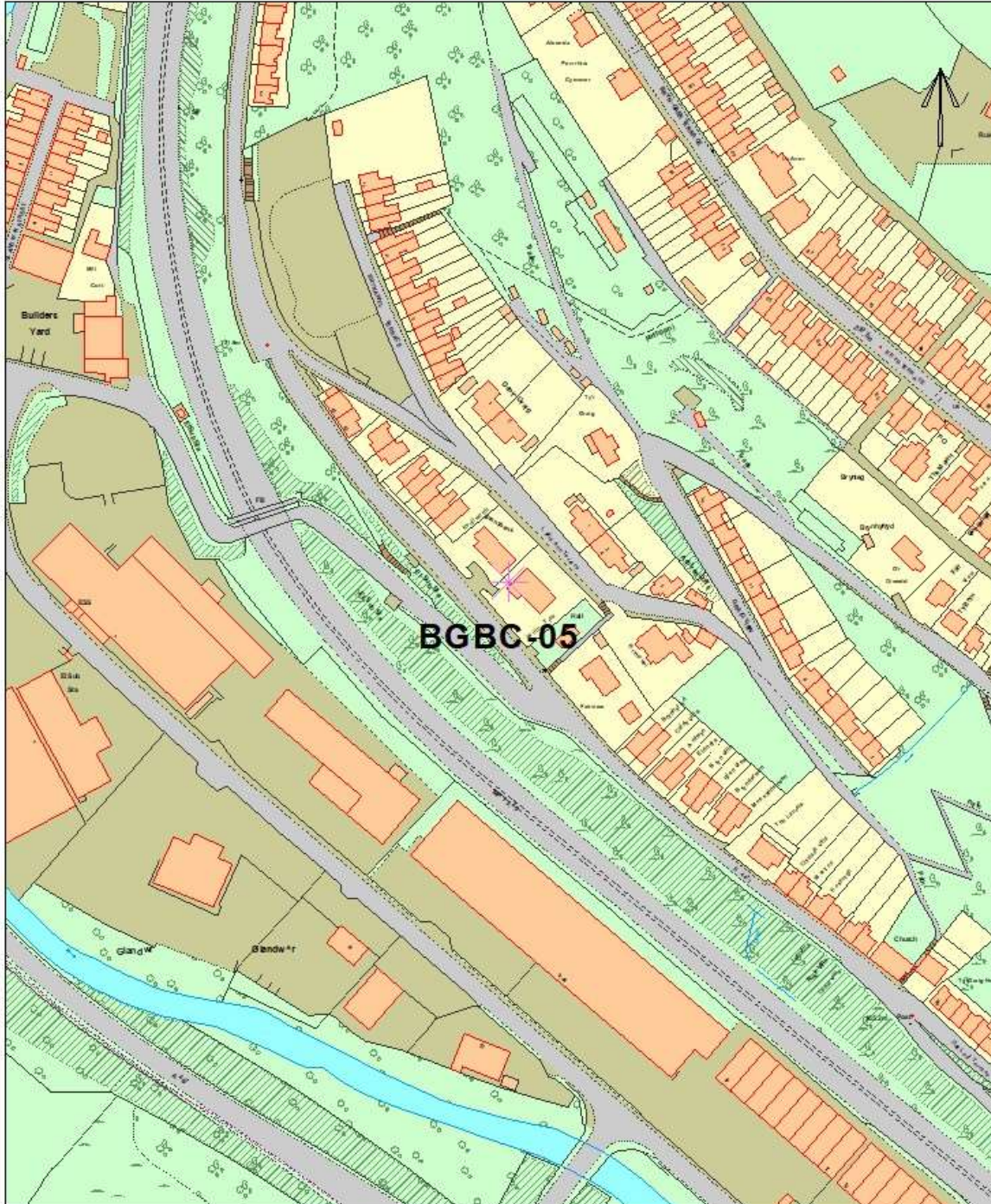


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-05- Willow Tree Bungalow, Aberbeeg

Easting: 321132 **Northing:** 201113

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Y mae atgynhychu heb awdurdod yn tori Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGBC - LA09002L*



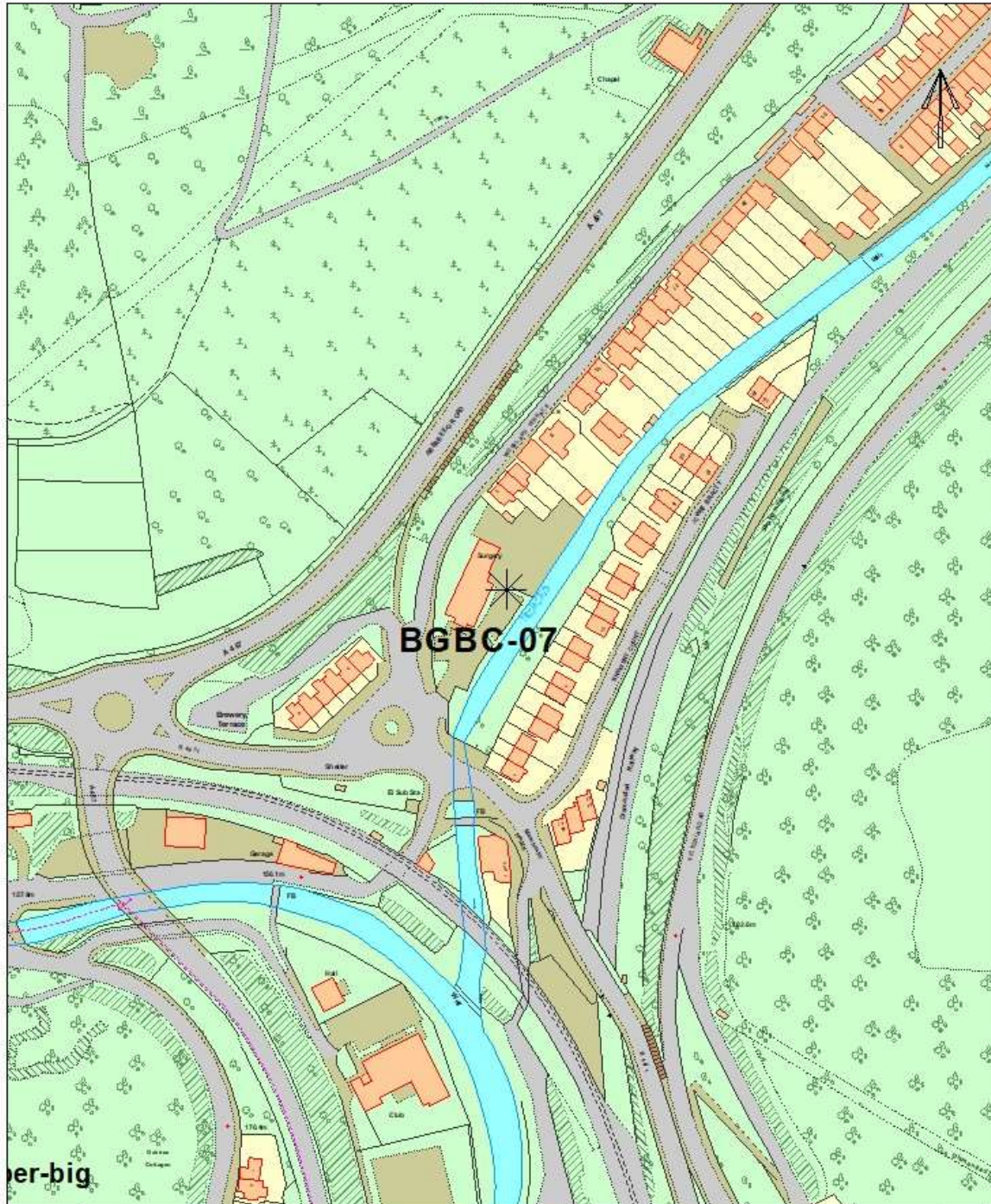


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-07 - Aberbeeg Medical Centre, Aberbeeg

Easting: 320969 **Northing:** 202021

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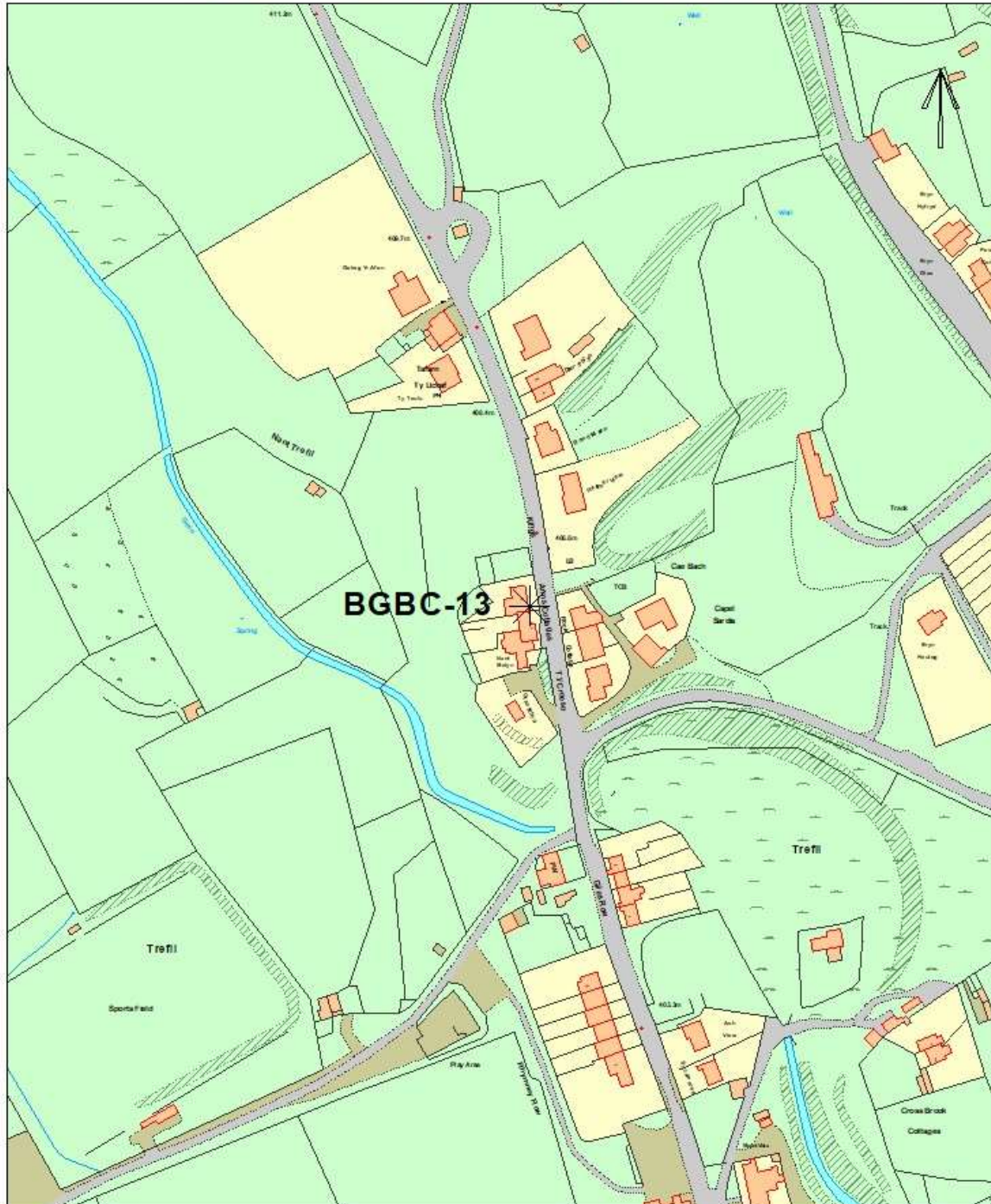


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

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

Easting: 312004 **Northing:** 212779

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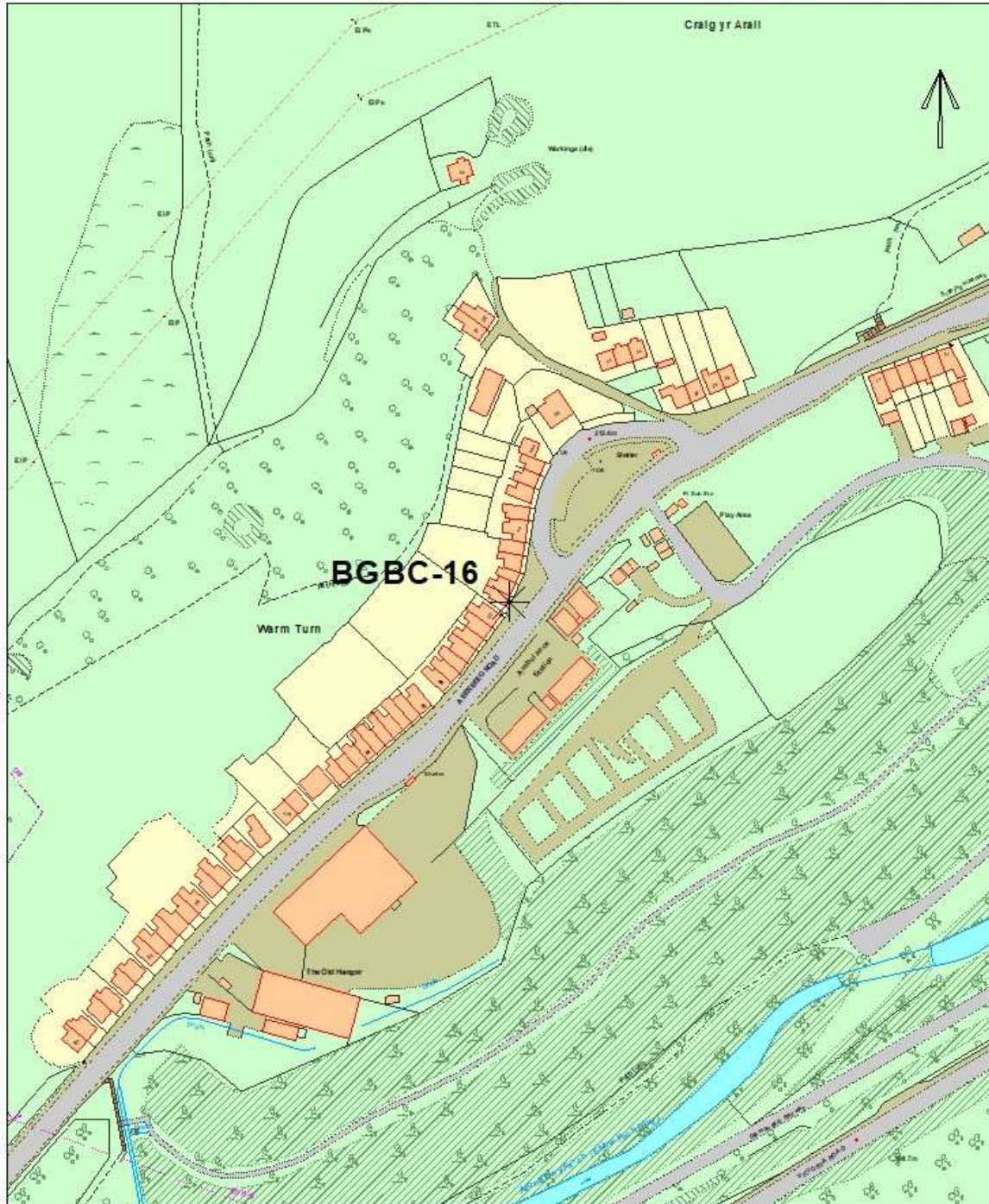


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-16- 49 Aberbeeg Road, Aberbeeg

Easting: 321432 Northing: 202667

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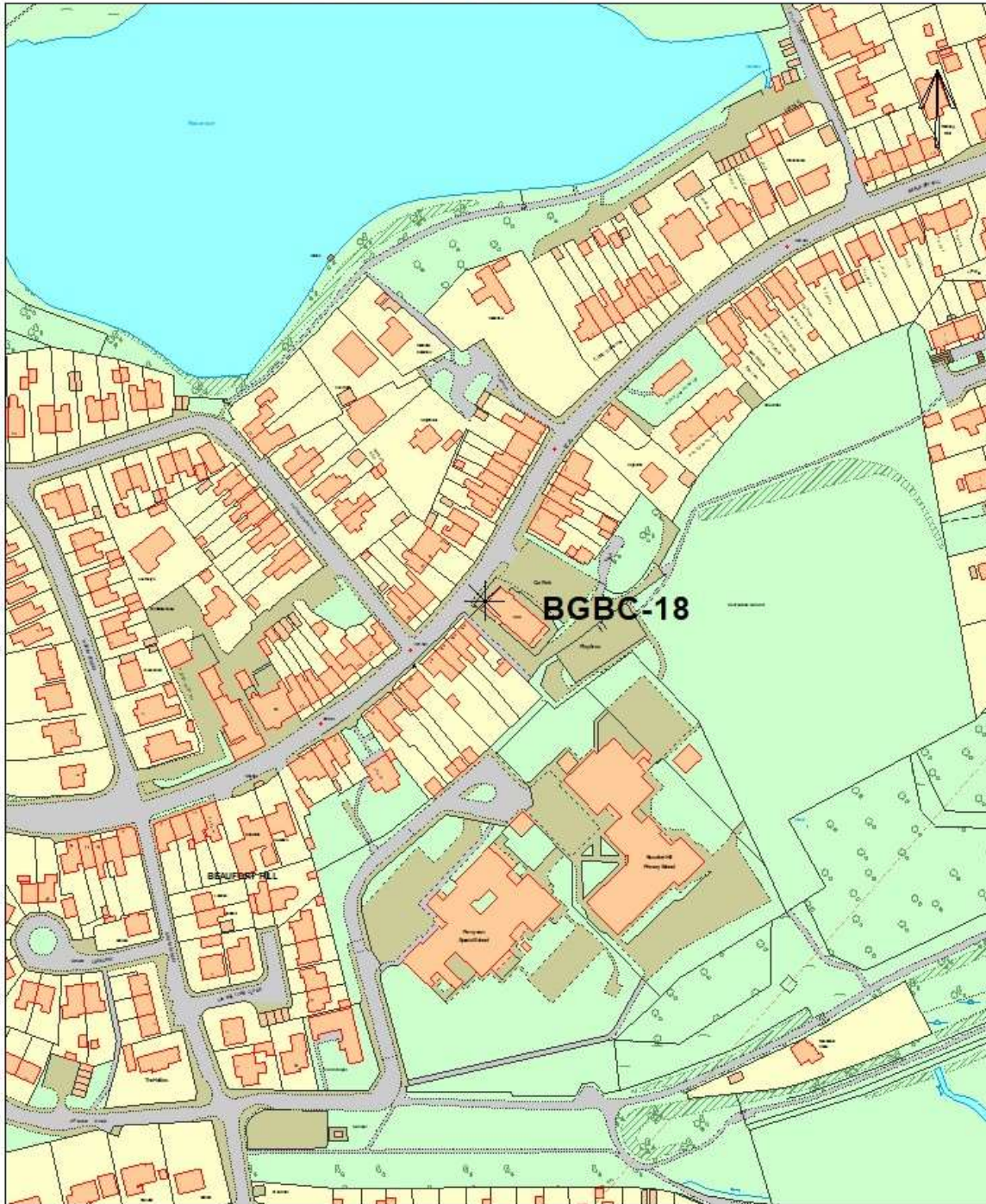


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

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

Easting: 317543 **Northing:** 211693

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Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

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

Easting: 316672 Northing: 211595

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Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-20- 122 Beaufort Road, Tredegar

Easting: 314854 **Northing:** 210235

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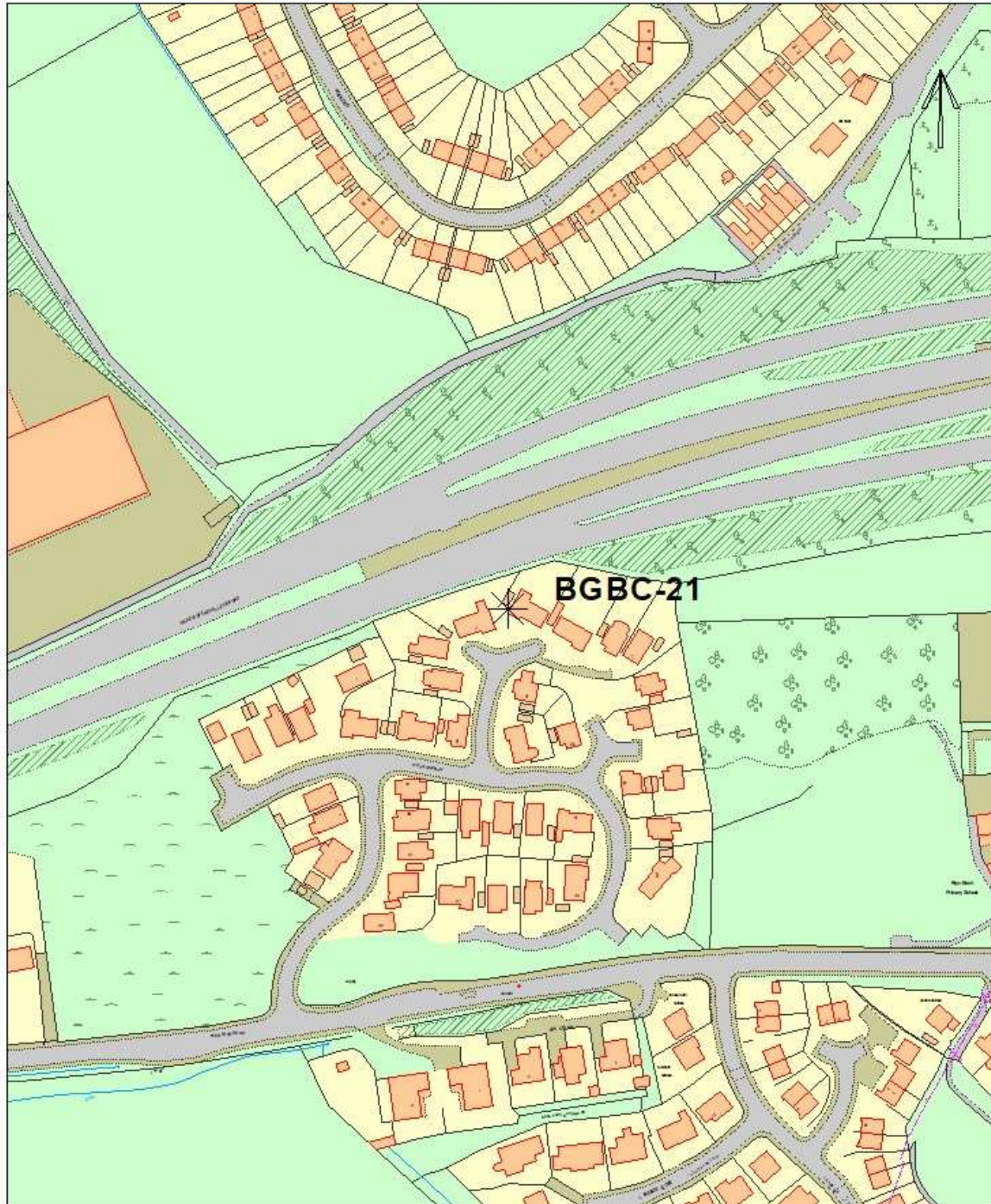


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

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

Easting: 312842 Northing: 210590

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Y mae atgynhychu heb awdurdod yn tori Hawlfraint y Goron a gall arwain at erlyniad neu achosion sifil. BGBC - LA09002L*



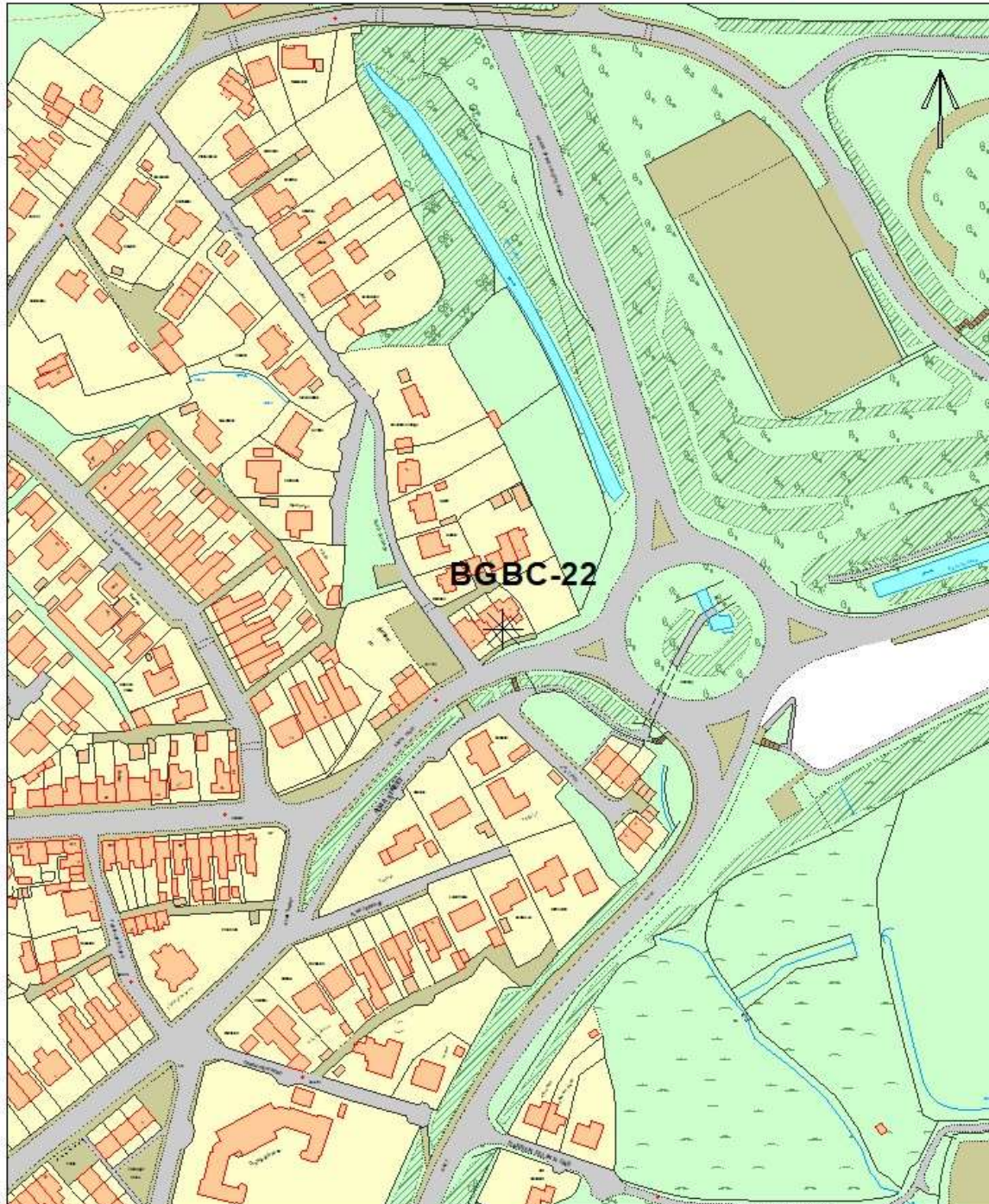


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-22- 2 King Street, Brynmawr

Easting: 319561 Northing: 212138

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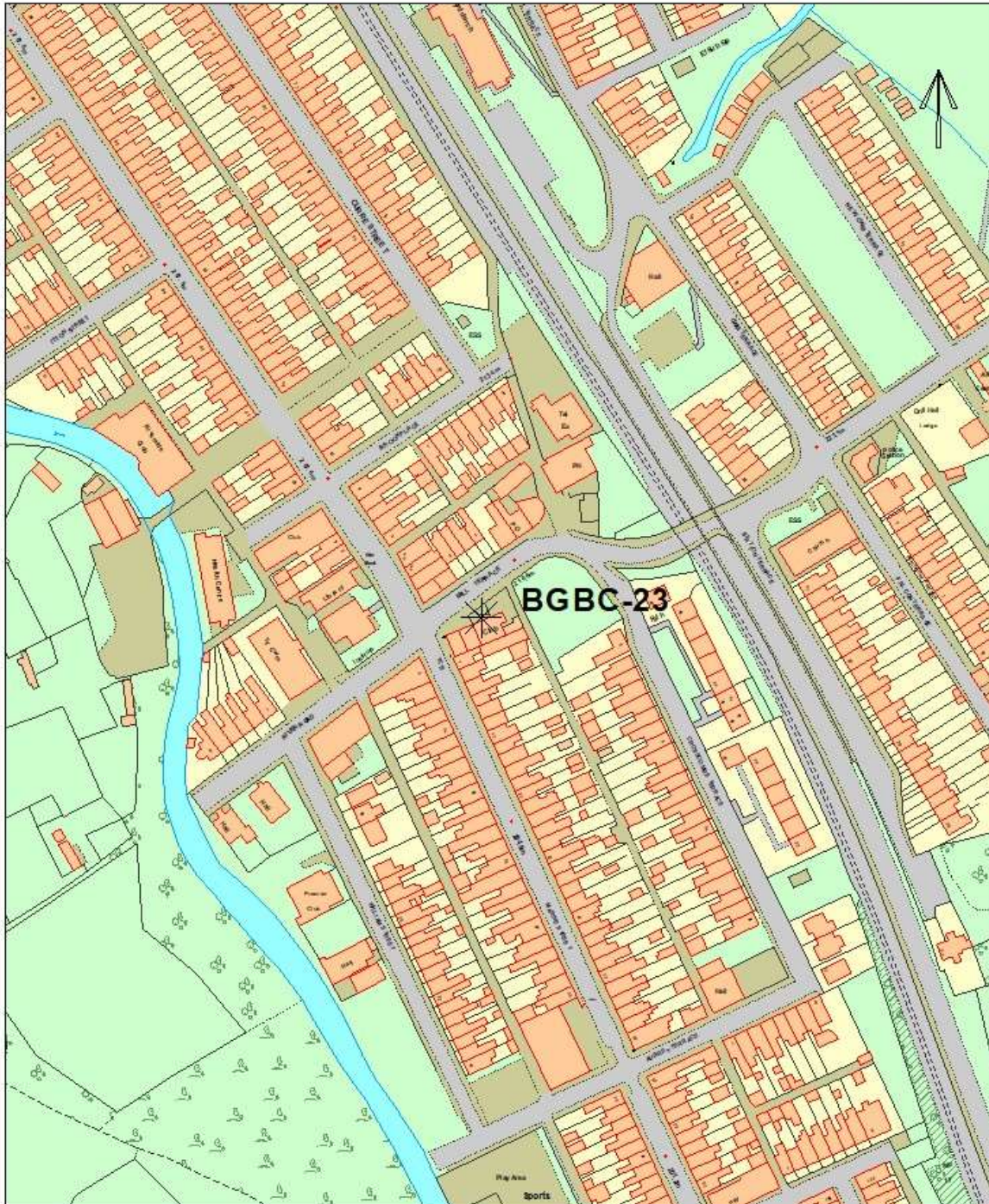


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-23- Cwm Conservative Club, Mill Terrace, Cwm

Easting: 318459 **Northing:** 205313

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Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-24.4 Glen View, Nantybwhch, Tredegar

Easting: 313147 **Northing:** 210770

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Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

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

Easting: 316990 **Northing:** 207896

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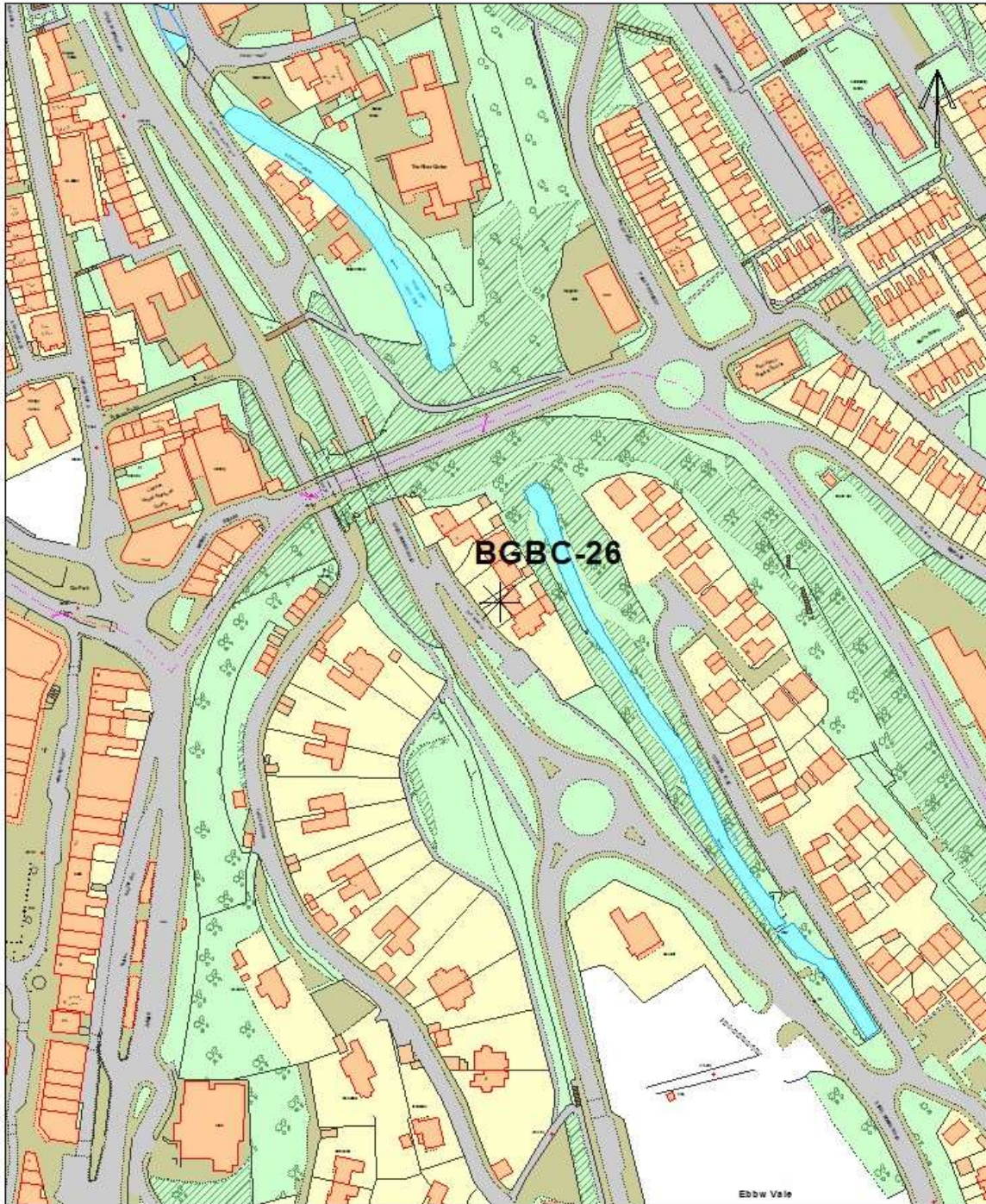


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

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

Easting: 316979 **Northing:** 209842

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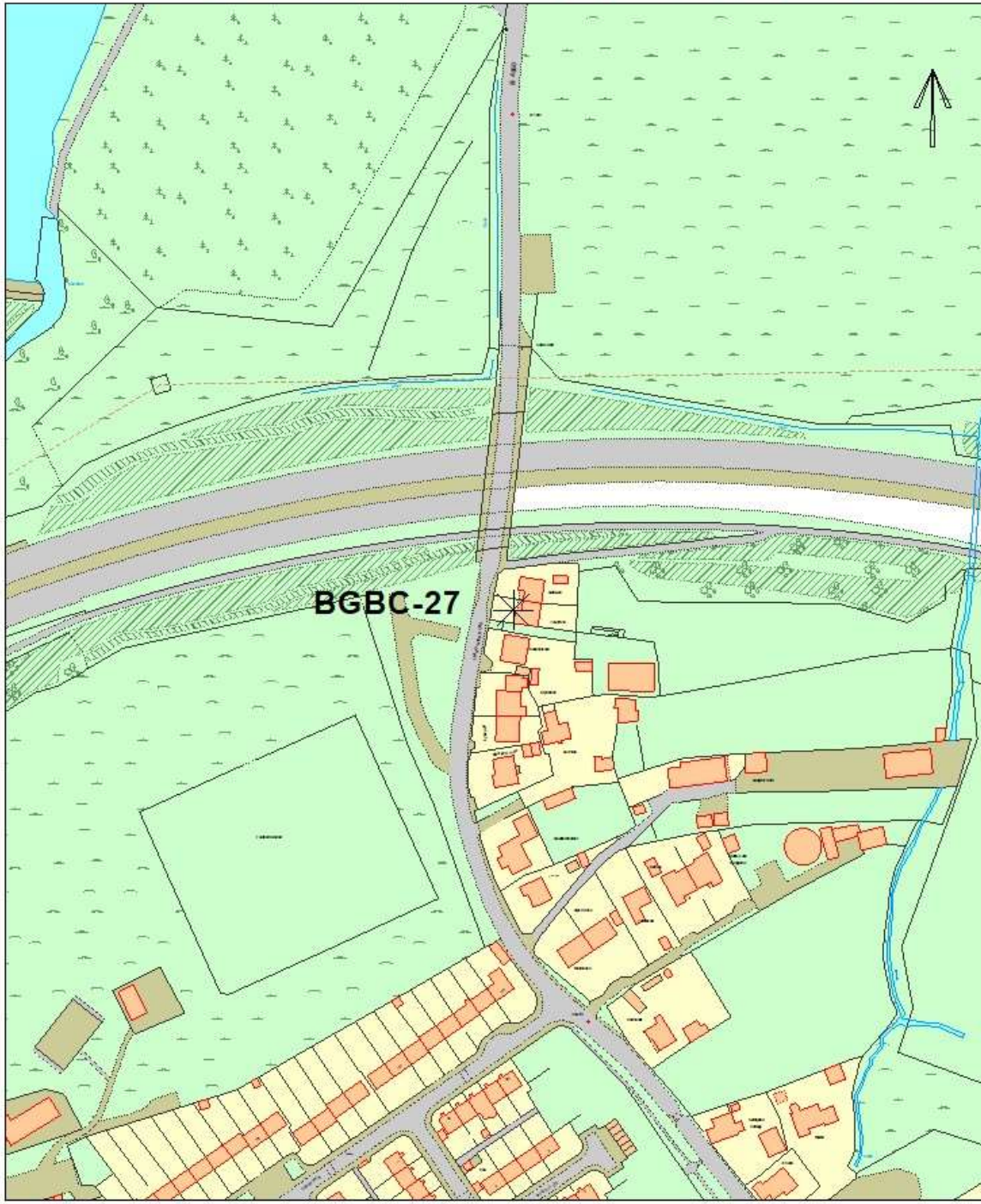


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-27 - Tyn y Rhyn, Llangynidr Road, Ebbw Vale

Easting: 316712 **Northing:** 212801

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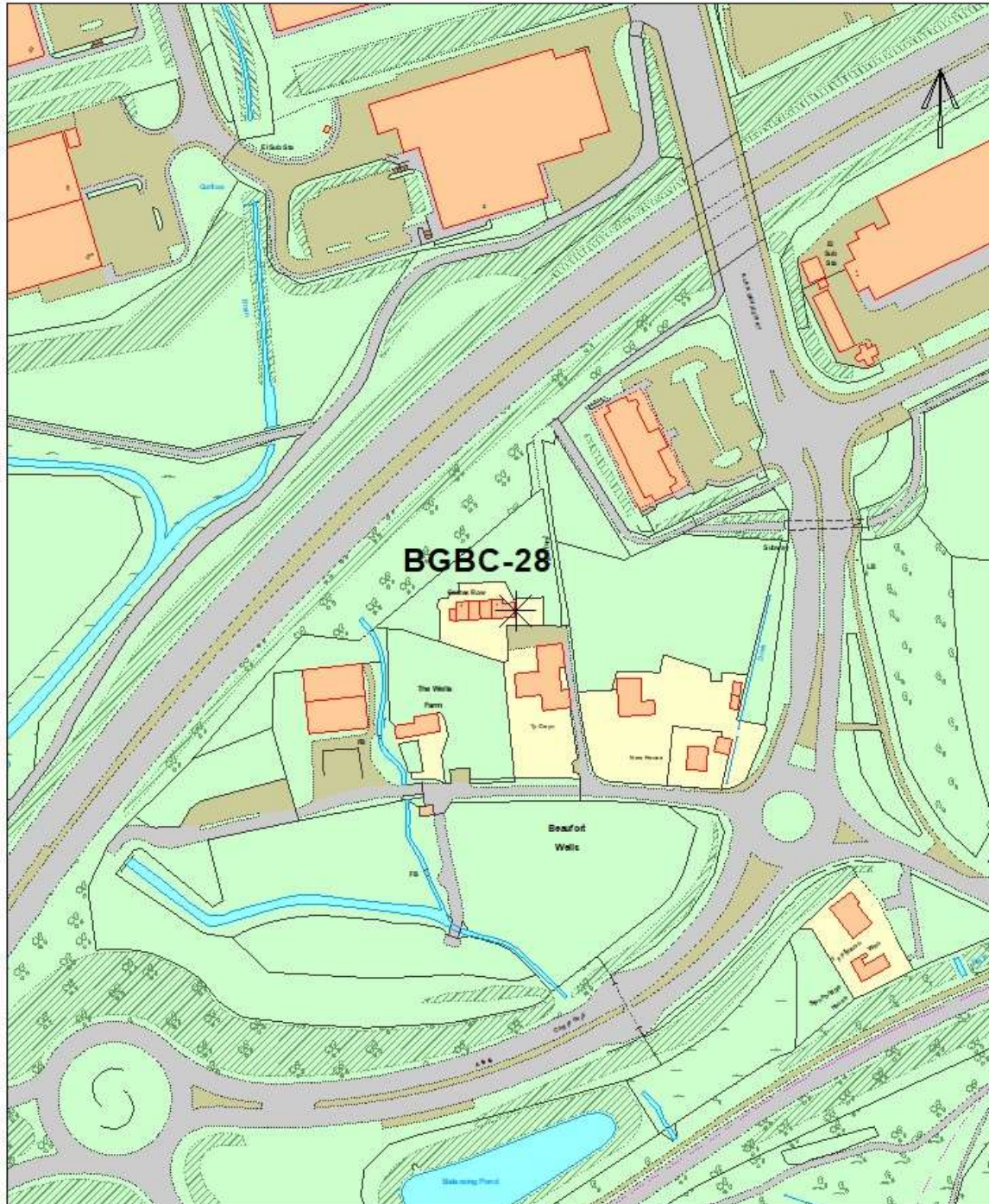


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

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

Easting: 314491 Northing: 211644

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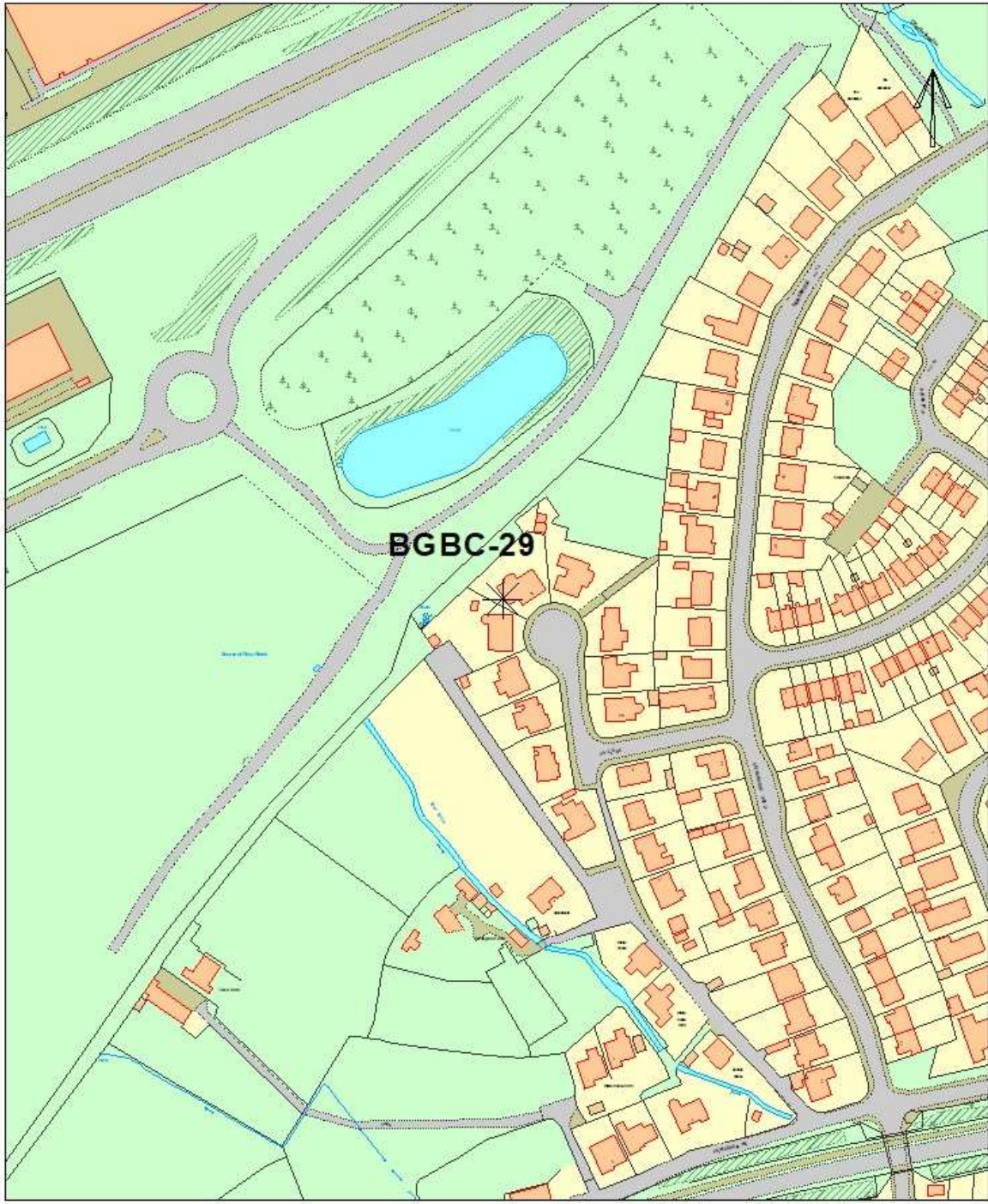


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

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

Easting: 315323 **Northing:** 211938

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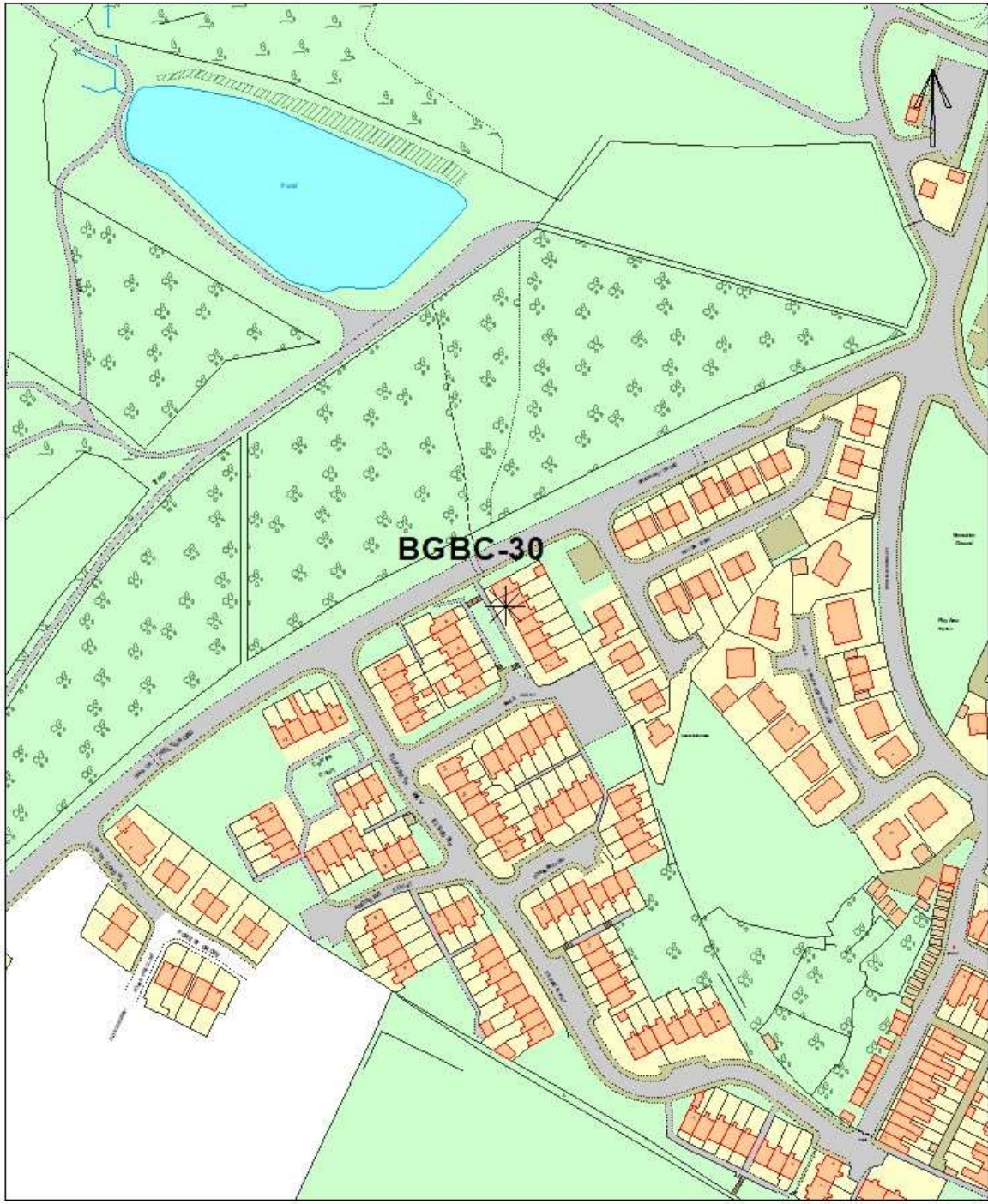


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

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

Easting: 316005 **Northing:** 210184

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Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

Location: BGBC-31- 18 Maes Morgan, Tredegar.

Easting: 312664 **Northing:** 210970

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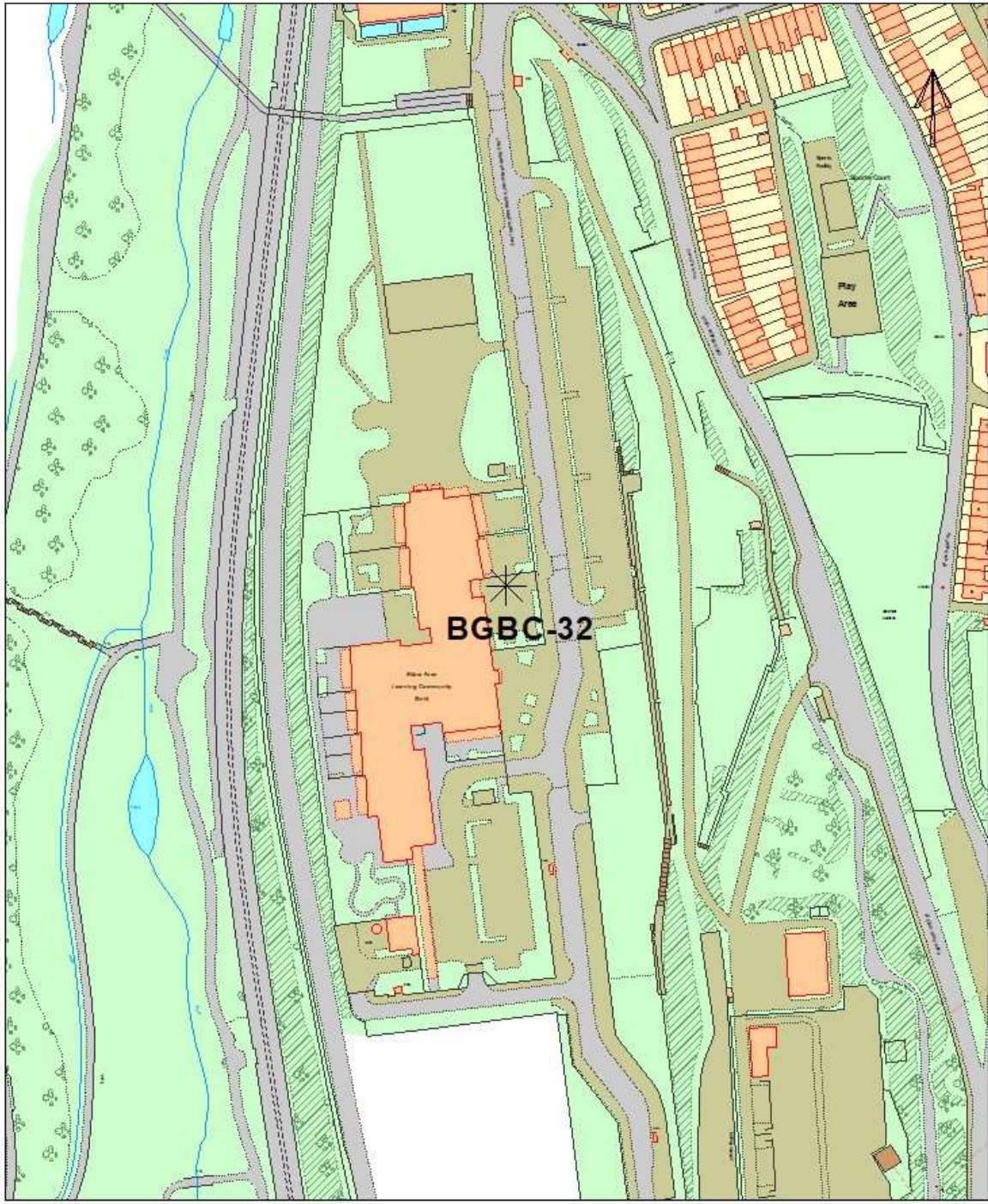


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

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

Easting: 317389 **Northing:** 208312

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Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

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

Easting: 314842 **Northing:** 208255

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Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

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

Easting: 313056 **Northing:** 210464

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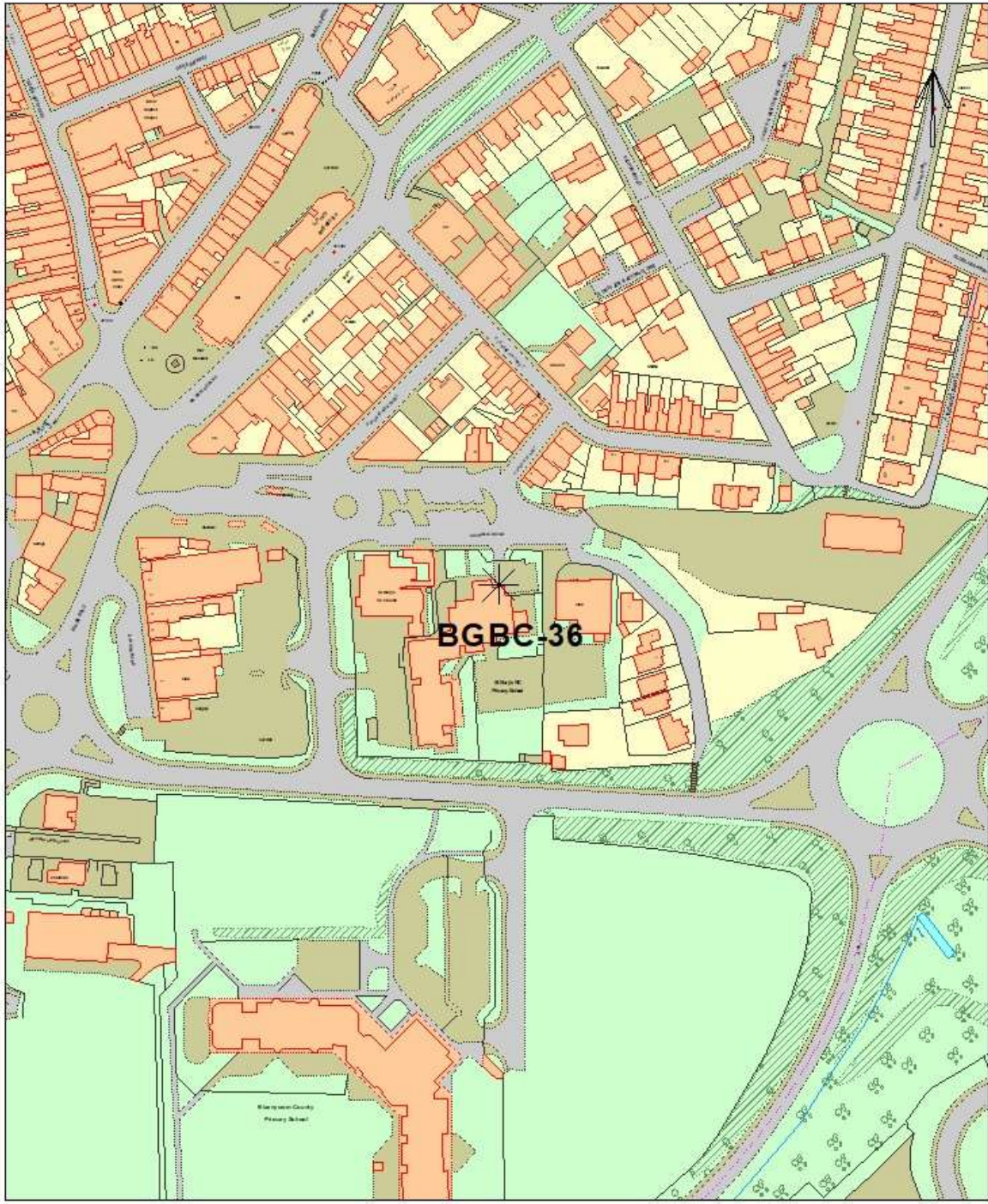


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

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

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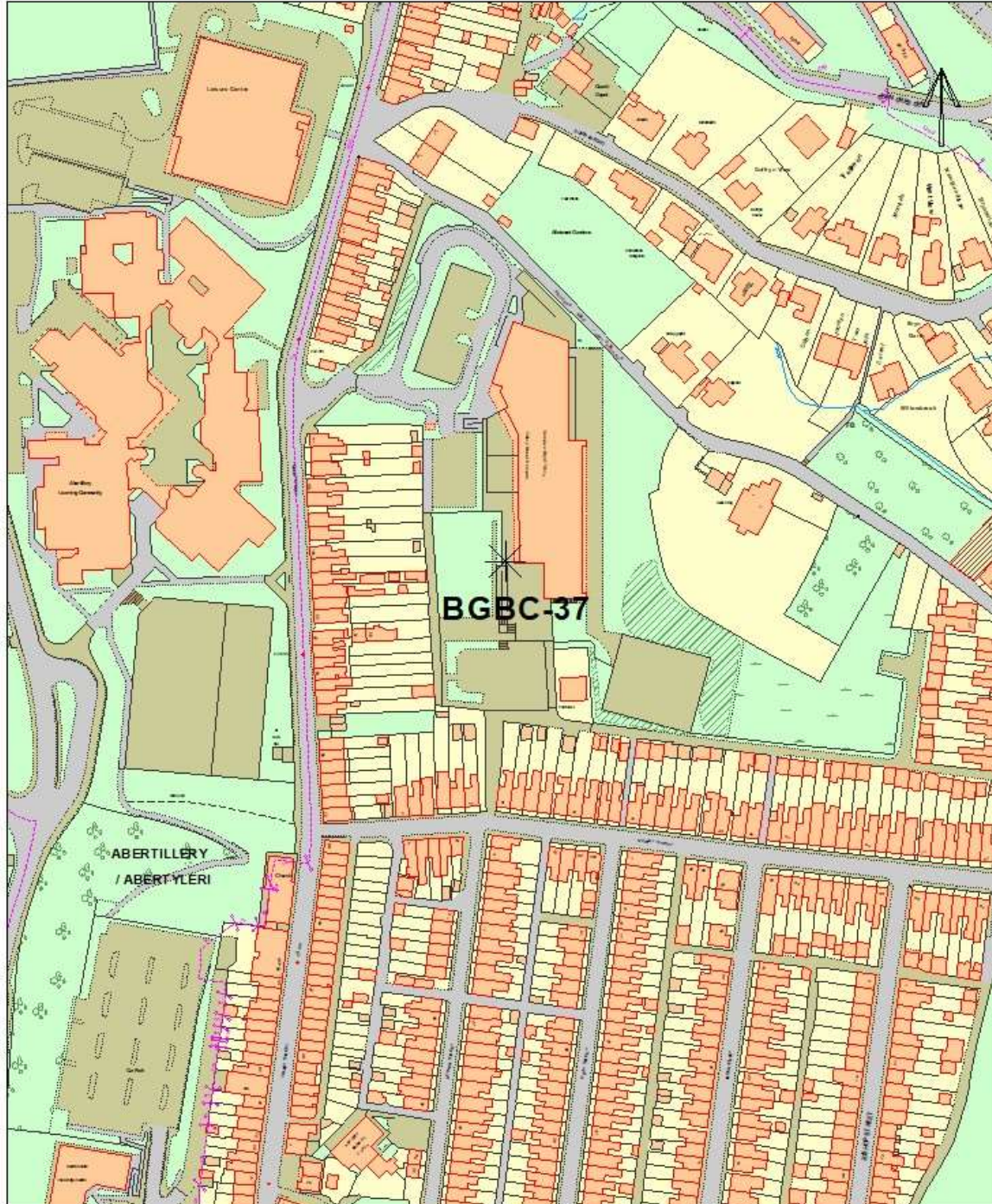


Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

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

Easting: 321892 **Northing:** 204585

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Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol . **Blaenau Gwent** . County Borough Council

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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Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol . **Blaenau Gwent** . County Borough Council

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

PROJECT : BGBC-39



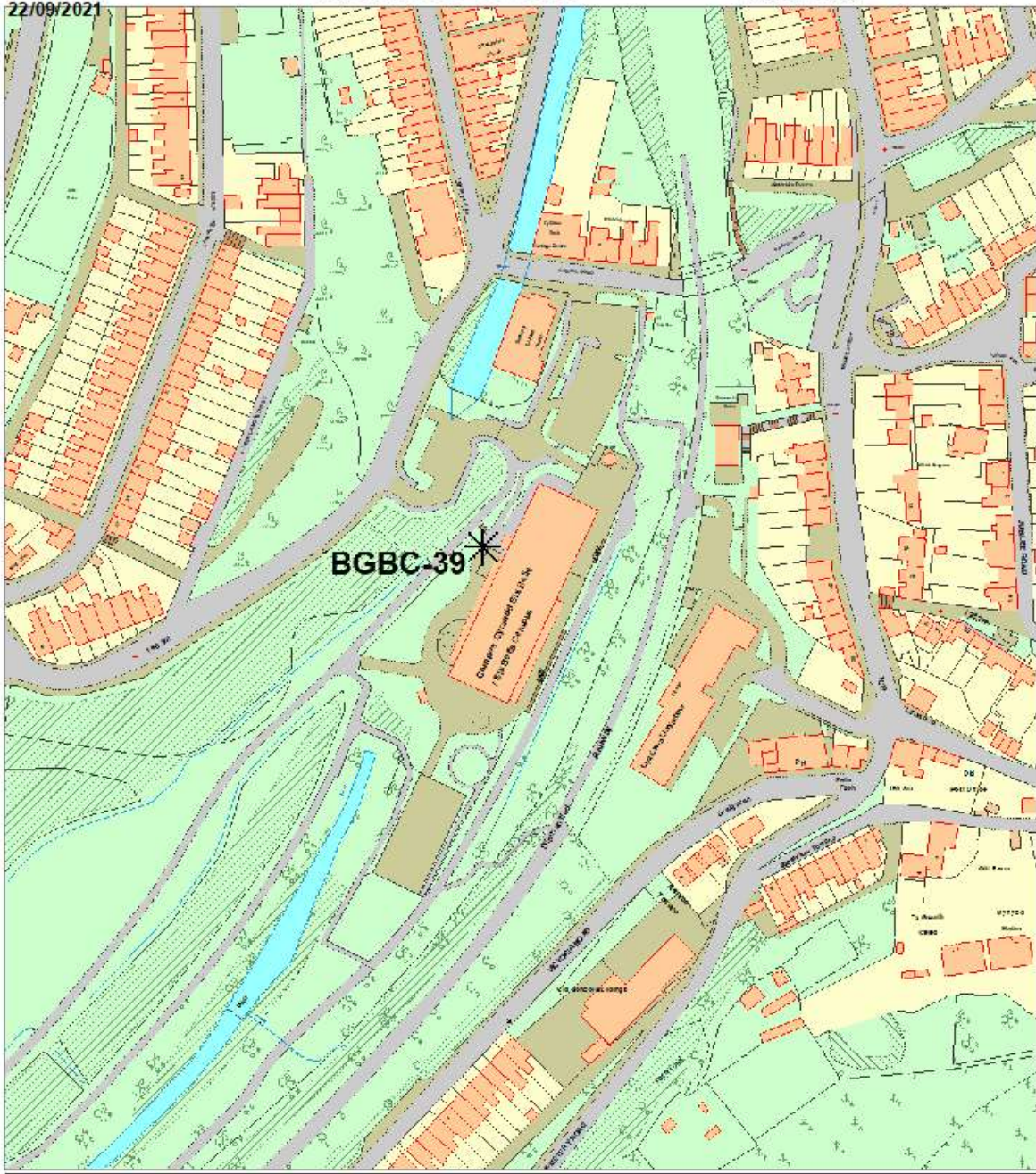
TITLE : Six Bells Primary Campus
 E: Six Bells Road, Abertillery,

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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 10µm (micrometres or microns) or less
PM _{2.5}	Airborne particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of 2.5µm or less
QA/QC	Quality Assurance and Quality Control
SO ₂	Sulphur Dioxide