

Border Control Posts in Wales

Progress Update

October 2021



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Introduction

This document supplements the Background Note on Border Control Posts (BCP) in Wales and the latest Concept Design. It provides the current position on BCP design and delivery in Wales as at 29 October 2021.

Holyhead Port

Site:

The Holyhead BCP will be located on Welsh Government owned land at Parc Cybi, Holyhead, some 1.7 miles from the port. The site has already been partially developed as a HGV stacking area as part of the contingency planning for the end of the EU transition period. At 15 acres it provides space for swim lanes, fencing, inspection buildings, offices, parking, sustainable drainage, screening and other environmental mitigations.

Planning:

Planning permission is being sought via Special Development Order (SDO) under section 59 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. Planning permission and any conditions are made through a Statutory Instrument (SI). The planning application was submitted to Welsh Ministers on 6 August 2021. The Welsh Government Minister for Climate Change will take the decision whether to grant the SDO or not and this is expected by April 2022.

The application proposes a 'Consenting Envelope'. This sets out a maximum limit for the assessed parameters of the development, within which all development will be limited. The Consenting Envelope will ensure that the final design of the BCP does not trigger significant environmental effects, whilst also allowing an appropriate degree of flexibility to accommodate design developments. In addition, the SDO limitations will be designed to mitigate the potential impacts of the development.

There is no statutory requirement to consult before making a Special Development Order (SDO). However, community consultation was undertaken for a period of 21 days from 24 March 2021 until 13 April 2021 and technical stakeholders received an extended period. The consultation departed from the Welsh Government policy of allowing a 12-week period. This departure was to allow for early engagement with stakeholders before major planning of the BCP began so that their views could be taken into account whilst meeting the timelines for the introduction of checks, as set out in the UK Government's [Border Operating Model](#) (BOM).

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Designs:

The BCP is a bespoke facility designed to accommodate checks on the full range of SPS controls on live animals, animal products, plants, plant products and wood from the EU and the possible acceptance of rest of world (ROW) SPS trade.

At 15 acres the site will provide space for swim lanes, fencing, inspection buildings, temperature controlled storage, offices, parking, sustainable drainage, screening and other environmental mitigations.

Concept designs are near complete and Welsh Government is undertaking a [BREEAM](#) assessment of the development's environmental, social and economic sustainability performance with a target rate of BREEAM Excellent.

Detailed designs will be developed in conjunctions with the appointed construction Contractor.

The published concept design is correct as of 11 August 2021. It should be noted that this is not final and is subject to revision as requirements and detailed designs are refined.

Construction:

Welsh Government issued the construction invitation to tender (ITT) on 09 August and it closed on 23 September. The ITT was issued via the North Wales Construction Partnership framework, administered by Denbighshire County Council.

A two stage design and build procurement strategy has been selected. The two stage approach is structured as follows:

Stage 1 – Contractor's design team works alongside Client design team to improve deliverability, programme works, establish supply chain and refine project cost.

Stage 2 – On agreement of project cost established at end of Stage 1, the contract for the construction works will be confirmed and the Contractor will commence site works.

The Stage 1 contract is expected to be awarded in 2022. The award does not prejudice the outcome of the SDO decision.

Construction completion is expected in late 2022 / early 2023 with an operational date of early 2023.