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Eich cyfeirnod Your reference

Ein cyfeirnod Our reference

ATISN 10467

Dyddiad Date

20 June 2016

Llinell uniongyrchol Direct line

Ebost Email:

Dear,

ATISN 10467 WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AT CAERPHILLY CASTLE

Thank you for your request which I received on **20 May 2016** about **Wildlife Management at Caerphilly Castle**. The information you requested is enclosed.

 A copy of the reasons why the wildlife management is undertaken at Caerphilly Castle;

Cadw undertakes routine management of wild birds, for health and safety purposes, at all the properties in its care. The management of wild birds is necessary to control the number of birds at the sites and prevent the spread of disease.

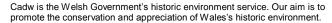
Wild birds are fouling the walls and ground causing acidic damage to the stoneworks, eroding the embankments making them unsafe for the public and creating possible health hazards to staff. In addition the water quality of the moat is greatly affected as the build up of waste matter produced by the birds heavily contaminates the water and hurts or kills the aquatic life.

Over the past three years during the breeding season a treatment program consisting of weekly visits by a two man team has been undertaken. This team replaces all the Canada goose eggs with temporary plastic eggs. The plan is that in another few years the geese will see the site as poor for breeding and move away to raise the young elsewhere.

This has shown to be very effective in controlling the flock numbers as few new birds have been raised. Left unchecked the population will increase.

 A copy of any licence held by Cadw to undertake the wildlife management activities at Caerphilly Castle;

Cadw yw gwasanaeth amgylchedd hanesyddol Llywodraeth Cymru. Ein nod yw hyrwyddo gwaith cadwraeth ar gyfer amgylchedd hanesyddol Cymru a gwerthfawrogiad ohono.







As a landowner or occupier Cadw has been granted a licence to carry out certain activities that would otherwise be prohibited by the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981).

A copy of the relevant Licences issued by Natural Resources Wales have been attached (Doc 1 to 3).

 A copy of the instructions issued by Cadw to the contractors undertaking the activities at Caerphilly Castle;

Please find attached a copy of the Shooting Methodology used by Aderyn Pest Control (Doc 4). In addition I have attached copies of all the purchase orders issued to Aderyn Pest Control to show the range of work they have undertaken for Cadw (Doc 5). These invoices have been redacted due to their commercially sensitive nature.

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

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

or Email: FreedomOfInformationOfficer@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House,

Water Lane,

Wilmslow.

Cheshire.

SK9 5AF.

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

Yours sincerely