Written evidence submitted by Gary Langdon (PPW0001)

I am a resident in close proximity to the Proposed Prison on the Baglan Moors site.

Has the MOJ taken into consideration that the proposed site has several significant drawbacks.

1. the site is moorland prone to excessive standing water and construction problems
2. developing this site is highly likely to cause water table issues for surrounding properties
3. The proposed site is the habitat and breeding grounds for several varieties of wildlife including Newt’s and lapwings.

The infrastructure to support the needs of such a large population of prisoners is not sufficient, the local hospital has no A&E, the surrounding roadways are gridlocked now and there is another large school being constructed to open late 2018, putting further pressure on an overloaded infrastructure.

From a personal perspective, the proposal to build such a large Prison amid a large residential area is blinkered, in the vicinity are several large Comprehensives as well as several primary schools. Given the issues surrounding smuggling into prisons by drones and relatives, surely the MOJ should look at placing such a development in an area where they can police this more effectively.

Part of the MOJ ‘s reasoning is that Port Talbot can cope with the influx of prisoner’s relatives looking for re housing as well as the prisoners themselves on release, NPTCBC has one of the longest waiting list for social and council housing lists in Wales

The MOJ also claim there is employment and job release availability for prisoners and ex-prisoners locally, yet Port Talbot has one of the highest unemployment levels in the UK.

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