

Environment and Sustainability Committee

Meeting Venue:
Committee Room 3 – Senedd

Meeting date:
14 November 2013

Meeting time:
09:30

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



For further information please contact:

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Committee Clerk
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Agenda

Informal session (09:30 – 10:00)

Public session

1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions (10:00)

2 Control of Horses (Wales) Bill – Stage 2 : Consideration of amendments (10:00 – 12:30) (Pages 1 - 12)

Papers: Marshalled List of Amendments
 Grouping of Amendments

In accordance with Standing Order 26.21 the Committee will dispose of amendments to the Control of Horses (Wales) Bill in the order which the sections and schedules to which they relate, arise in the Bill.

Alun Davies AM, Minister for Natural Resources and Food
Gary Haggaty, Deputy Director, Agriculture and Rural Affairs Division
Julia Hill, Legal Services, Rural Affairs and Agriculture Team

3 Papers to note (Pages 13 - 15)

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 November

Draft Budget 2014–2015 – Letter from the Minister for Housing and

Regeneration (Page 16)
E&S(4)-28-13 paper 1



RHESTR O WELLIANNAU WEDI'U DIDOLI MARSHALLED LIST OF AMENDMENTS

Bil Rheoli Ceffylau (Cymru) Control of Horses (Wales) Bill

Mae'r gwelliannau â * ar eu pwys yn rhai newydd neu'n rhai sydd wedi'u haddasu.

Amendments marked * are new or have been altered.

Mae'r testun mewn italig wedi'i ddarparu gan y sawl a gynigiodd y gwelliant perthnasol i esbonio ei ddiben ac i gynorthwyo'r darllenydd. Nid yw'r testun yn rhan o eiriad y gwelliant.

The text in italics has been provided by the proposer of the relevant amendment to explain its purpose and to aid the reader's understanding. The text does not form part of the amendment.

Caiff y Bil ei ystyried yn y drefn a ganlyn—

The Bill will be considered in the following order—

Sections 1-10

Adrannau 1-10

Alun Davies

11

Section 3, page 2, leave out lines 3 to 5 and insert—

'(a) a constable, and

(b) if any person appears to the local authority to be the owner of the horse or to be acting on behalf of the owner in relation to the horse, that person.'

Adran 3, tudalen 2, hepgorer llinellau 3 hyd at 5 a mewnosoder—

'(a) cwnstabl, a

(b) os ymddengys i'r awdurdod lleol fod person yn berchennog y ceffyl neu'n gweithredu ar ran y perchennog mewn perthynas â'r ceffyl, y person hwnnw.'

- Antoinette Sandbach** 1
Section 3, page 2, line 4, leave out 'and' and insert 'or'.
Adran 3, tudalen 2, llinell 4, hepgorer 'a' a mewnosoder 'neu'.
- Alun Davies** 12
Section 3, page 2, line 8, leave out '(3)(a)' and insert '(3)(b)'.
Adran 3, tudalen 2, llinell 8, hepgorer '(3)(a)' a mewnosoder '(3)(b)'.
- Alun Davies** 13
Section 3, page 2, line 14, leave out '(3)(a)' and insert '(3)(b)'.
Adran 3, tudalen 2, llinell 14, hepgorer '(3)(a)' a mewnosoder '(3)(b)'.
- Alun Davies** 14
Section 3, page 2, line 17, leave out 'the date on which' and insert 'when'.
Adran 3, tudalen 2, llinell 17, hepgorer 'y dyddiad' a mewnosoder 'pryd'.
- Alun Davies** 15
Section 3, page 2, line 20, leave out '(3)(b)' and insert '(3)(a)'.
Adran 3, tudalen 2, llinell 19, hepgorer '(3)(b)' a mewnosoder '(3)(a)'.
- Alun Davies** 16
Section 3, page 2, line 21, leave out '(3)(a)' and insert '(3)(b)'.
Adran 3, tudalen 2, llinell 20, hepgorer '(3)(a)' a mewnosoder '(3)(b)'.

Alun Davies

17

Section 4, page 2, after line 27, insert—

- ‘(3) The local authority must give to the owner a notice stating the amount that it considers the owner is liable to pay under subsection (1) and containing an explanation of—
- (a) how that amount was arrived at, and
 - (b) the right to refer a dispute for resolution by the Welsh Ministers and how to exercise it.’.

Adran 4, tudalen 2, ar ôl llinell 26, mewnosoder—

- ‘(3) Rhaid i’r awdurdod lleol roi hysbysiad i’r perchennog sy’n datgan y swm y mae’r awdurdod lleol o’r farn bod y perchennog yn atebol i’w dalu o dan is-adran (1) ac yn cynnwys esboniad o—
- (a) sut y pennwyd y swm hwnnw, a
 - (b) yr hawl i gyfeirio anghydfod i’w ddatrys gan Weinidogion Cymru a sut i arfer yr hawl honno.’.

William Powell

25

Section 4, page 2, after line 27, insert—

- ‘(3) The local authority must give to the owner a notice stating the amount that it considers the owner is liable to pay under subsection (1) and containing an explanation of how that amount was arrived at.’.

Adran 4, tudalen 2, ar ôl llinell 26, mewnosoder—

- ‘(3) Rhaid i’r awdurdod lleol roi hysbysiad i’r perchennog sy’n datgan y swm y mae’r awdurdod lleol o’r farn bod y perchennog yn atebol i’w dalu o dan is-adran (1) ac yn cynnwys esboniad o sut y pennwyd y swm hwnnw.’.

Alun Davies

18

Section 5, page 2, line 29, leave out subsection (1) and insert—

- ‘(1) Subject to section [*Resolution of disputes about amounts payable*], this section applies if—
- (a) neither the owner of the horse nor a person acting on behalf of the owner of the horse has contacted the local authority before the end of the period of 7 days beginning with the relevant day, or
 - (b) the owner of the horse or a person acting on behalf of the owner of the horse has contacted the local authority before the end of that period but, having been given notice under subsection (3) of section 4, has failed to comply with subsection (1) of that section before the end of the period of 7 days beginning with the day on which the notice was received.’.

Adran 5, tudalen 2, llinell 28, hepgorer is-adran (1) a mewnosoder—

- ‘(1) Yn ddarostyngedig i adran [*Datrys anghydfodau am symiau taladwy*], mae’r adran hon yn gymwys—
- (a) os nad yw perchennog y ceffyl na pherson sy’n gweithredu ar ran perchennog y ceffyl wedi cysylltu â’r awdurdod lleol cyn pen y cyfnod o 7 niwrnod gan ddechrau gyda’r diwrnod perthnasol, neu
 - (b) os yw perchennog y ceffyl neu berson sy’n gweithredu ar ran perchennog y ceffyl wedi cysylltu â’r awdurdod lleol cyn pen y cyfnod hwnnw, er iddo gael hysbysiad o dan is-adran (3) o adran 4, wedi methu â chydymffurfio ag is-adran (1) o’r adran honno cyn pen y cyfnod o 7 niwrnod gan ddechrau gyda’r diwrnod pan gafwyd yr hysbysiad.’.

Alun Davies

19

Section 5, page 2, line 38, leave out ‘gives notice under section 3(3)’ and insert ‘places the notice under section 3(1)’.

Adran 5, tudalen 2, llinell 37, hepgorer ‘rhoi hysbysiad o dan adran 3(3)’ a mewnosoder ‘gosod yr hysbysiad o dan adran 3(1)’.

***Llyr Huws Gruffydd**

Gyda chefnogaeth/ Supported by: William Powell

7

Section 5, page 2, line 38, after ‘3(3)’, insert ‘and, for the purposes of this section, if the local authority has been unable to identify a person to whom notice could be given under section 3(3) (a), notice to a constable alone under section 3(3)(b) is sufficient’.

Adran 5, tudalen 2, llinell 37, ar ôl ‘3(3)’, mewnosoder ‘ac, at ddibenion yr adran hon, os yw’r awdurdod lleol wedi methu ag adnabod person y gellid rhoi hysbysiad iddo o dan adran 3(3)(a), mae hysbysiad i gwnstabl yn unig o dan adran 3(3)(b) yn ddigonol’.

Alun Davies

20

Section 5, page 3, line 1, leave out ‘, after the end of that period,’.

Adran 5, tudalen 3, llinell 1, hepgorer ‘, ar ôl diwedd y cyfnod hwnnw,’.

***Antoinette Sandbach**

Gyda chefnogaeth / Supported by: William Powell

2

Section 5, page 3, after line 2, insert—

- (4) The local authority may not dispose of the horse (other than by way of destruction) or return it to the owner unless the horse has been microchipped in accordance with Council Directives 90/426/EEC and 90/427/EEC.’.

Adran 5, tudalen 3, ar ôl llinell 2, mewnosoder—

- (4) Ni chaiff awdurdod lleol waredu ceffyl (heblaw am trwy ei ddifa) na'i ddychwelyd i'r perchennog oni bai bod y ceffyl wedi'i ficrosglodwynnu yn unol â Chyfarwyddebau'r Cyngor 90/426/EEC a 90/427/EEC.’.

Alun Davies

21

Section 5, page 3, line 8, leave out ‘must’ and insert ‘is liable to’.

Adran 5, tudalen 3, llinell 8, hepgorer ‘rhaid i’r awdurdod lleol’ a mewnosoder ‘mae’r awdurdod lleol yn atebol i’.

Antoinette Sandbach

3

Section 5, page 3, line 8, after ‘must’ insert—

- (a) pay any costs reasonably incurred by the occupier of the land upon which the horse was seized.’.

Data Protection law prevents local authorities from releasing the identity of the seized horse’s owner to third parties. This amendment compels local authorities to pay costs reasonably incurred by the occupier of the land, when proceeds from the disposal of a horse exceed the costs incurred by the local authority itself.

Adran 5, tudalen 3, llinell 8, ar ôl ‘lleol’ mewnosoder—

- (a) talu unrhyw gostau a dynnwyd yn rhesymol gan feddiannydd y tir yr ymafaelwyd y ceffyl arno’.

Mae cyfraith diogelu data yn atal awdurdodau lleol rhag datgelu enw perchennog y ceffyl yr ymafaelwyd ag ef i drydydd parti. Mae’r gwelliant hwn yn gorfodi awdurdodau lleol i dalu costau a dynnir yn rhesymol gan feddiannydd y tir, pan mae’r enillion o waredu ceffyl yn uwch na’r costau a dynnwyd gan yr awdurdod lleol ei hun.

Alun Davies

22

Section 5, page 3, after line 12, insert—

- ‘(7) The local authority must give to the owner notice stating the amount that it considers the owner is liable to pay under subsection (4) or that it is liable to pay under subsection (5) and containing an explanation of—
- (a) how that amount was arrived at, and
 - (b) the right to refer a dispute for resolution by the Welsh Ministers and how to exercise it.’.

Adran 5, tudalen 3, ar ôl llinell 12, mewnosoder—

- ‘(7) Rhaid i’r awdurdod lleol roi hysbysiad i’r perchennog sy’n datgan y swm y mae’r awdurdod lleol o’r farn bod y perchennog yn atebol i’w dalu o dan is-adran (4) neu y mae’r awdurdod lleol yn atebol i’w dalu o dan is-adran (5) ac yn cynnwys esboniad o—
- (a) sut y pennwyd y swm hwnnw, a
 - (b) yr hawl i gyfeirio anghydfod i’w ddatrys gan Weinidogion Cymru a sut i arfer yr hawl honno.’.

Alun Davies

23

Page 3, line 24, leave out section 7 and insert—

[] Resolution of disputes about amounts payable

- (1) This section applies where a dispute arises between the owner of a horse and a local authority as to—
 - (a) the amount that the owner of the horse is liable to pay to the local authority under section 4(1) or 5(4), or
 - (b) the amount that the local authority is liable to pay to the owner of the horse under section 5(5).
- (2) The owner of the horse may, within the period of 7 days beginning with that on which the owner receives notice under section 4(3) or 5(7), refer the dispute for resolution by the Welsh Ministers by giving to the Welsh Ministers notice containing a statement of the reasons for disputing the amount.
- (3) Where the Welsh Ministers receive a notice under subsection (2) they must forward the notice to the local authority.
- (4) The local authority may make representations to the Welsh Ministers within the period of 7 days beginning with that on which it receives the notice forwarded under subsection (3).
- (5) The Welsh Ministers may require the local authority to provide any information which they consider may assist them in resolving the dispute.
- (6) The Welsh Ministers must resolve the dispute by determining the amount of the liability as soon as is reasonably practicable in all the circumstances.
- (7) Where the dispute relates to liability under section 4(1), the local authority may not dispose of the horse while the dispute is awaiting resolution by the Welsh Ministers.’.

Tudalen 3, llinell 24, hepgorer adran 7 a mewnosoder –

[] Datrys anghydfodau am symiau taladwy

- (1) Mae'r adran hon yn gymwys pan fo anghydfod yn codi rhwng perchennog ceffyl ac awdurdod lleol o ran –
 - (a) y swm y mae perchennog y ceffyl yn atebol i'w dalu i'r awdurdod lleol o dan adran 4(1) neu 5(4), neu
 - (b) y swm y mae'r awdurdod lleol yn atebol i'w dalu i berchennog y ceffyl o dan adran 5(5).
- (2) Caiff perchennog y ceffyl, o fewn cyfnod o 7 niwrnod gan ddechrau gyda'r diwrnod y mae'r perchennog yn cael hysbysiad o dan adran 4(3) neu 5(7), gyfeirio'r anghydfod i'w ddatrys gan Weinidogion Cymru drwy roi hysbysiad i Weinidogion Cymru sy'n cynnwys datganiad o'r rhesymau dros godi anghydfod am y swm.
- (3) Pan fo Gweinidogion Cymru yn cael hysbysiad o dan is-adran (2) rhaid iddynt anfon yr hysbysiad ymlaen i'r awdurdod lleol.
- (4) Caiff yr awdurdod lleol gyflwyno sylwadau i Weinidogion Cymru o fewn y cyfnod o 7 niwrnod gan ddechrau gyda'r diwrnod y caiff yr hysbysiad a anfonwyd ymlaen iddo o dan is-adran (3).
- (5) Caniateir i Weinidogion Cymru ei gwneud yn ofynnol i'r awdurdod lleol ddarparu unrhyw wybodaeth a all yn eu barn hwy eu cynorthwyo wrth iddynt ddatrys yr anghydfod.
- (6) Rhaid i Weinidogion Cymru ddatrys yr anghydfod drwy benderfynu ar swm yr atebolrwydd cyn gynted ag y bo'n ymarferol o dan yr holl amgylchiadau.
- (7) Pan fo'r anghydfod yn ymwneud ag atebolrwydd o dan adran 4(1), ni chaiff yr awdurdod waredu'r ceffyl tra bo'r anghydfod yn aros iddo gael ei ddatrys gan Weinidogion Cymru.'.

***Antoinette Sandbach**

Gyda chefnogaeth / Supported by: William Powell

4

Section 7, page 3, line 25, leave out 'may' and insert 'must'.

Adran 7, tudalen 3, llinell 25, hepgorer 'Caiff Gweinidogion' a mewnosoder 'Rhaid i Weinidogion'.

***Antoinette Sandbach**

Gyda chefnogaeth / Supported by: William Powell

5

Section 7, page 3, line 27, leave out 'may' and insert 'must'.

Adran 7, tudalen 3, llinell 27, hepgorer 'caniateir' a mewnosoder 'mae'n rhaid'.

***Llyr Huws Gruffydd**

Gyda chefnogaeth / Supported by: William Powell

8

Section 7, page 4, line 1, leave out subsection (3) and insert –

- ‘(3) A statutory instrument containing regulations made by the Welsh Ministers under this section may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before, and approved by resolution of, the National Assembly for Wales.’.

Adran 7, tudalen 4, llinell 1, hepgorer is-adran (3) a mewnosoder –

- ‘(3) Ni chaniateir i offeryn statudol sy’n cynnwys rheoliadau a wneir gan Weinidogion Cymru o dan yr adran hon gael ei wneud oni bai bod drafft o’r offeryn wedi ei osod gerbron Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, a’i gymeradwyo yn unol â phenderfyniad ganddo.’.

Antoinette Sandbach

6

To insert a new section –

[] Guidance

- (1) The Welsh Ministers must issue guidance to local authorities in relation to their functions under this Act within 3 months of the day on which this Act receives Royal Assent.
- (2) In the exercise of its functions under this Act, a local authority must have regard to guidance given by the Welsh Ministers.
- (3) The Welsh Ministers may –
 - (a) give guidance either generally or to specified descriptions of local authorities;
 - (b) revise the guidance by giving further guidance under this section;
 - (c) withdraw the guidance by giving further guidance under this section or by notice.
- (4) The Welsh Ministers must publish any guidance or notice under this section.’.

I fewnosod adran newydd –

[] Canllawiau

- (1) Rhaid i Weinidogion Cymru ddyroddi canllawiau i awdurdodau lleol mewn perthynas â’u swyddogaethau o dan y Ddeddf hon o fewn 3 mis i’r diwrnod y bydd y Ddeddf hon yn cael Cydsyniad Brenhinol.
- (2) Wrth arfer ei swyddogaethau o dan y Ddeddf hon, rhaid i awdurdod lleol roi sylw i ganllawiau a roddir gan Weinidogion Cymru.
- (3) Caiff Gweinidogion Cymru –
 - (a) rhoi canllawiau yn gyffredinol neu i ddisgrifiadau penodedig o awdurdodau lleol;
 - (b) diwygio’r canllawiau drwy roi canllawiau pellach o dan yr adran hon;
 - (c) tynnu’r canllawiau yn ôl drwy roi canllawiau pellach o dan yr adran hon neu drwy hysbysiad.
- (4) Rhaid i Weinidogion Cymru gyhoeddi unrhyw ganllawiau neu hysbysiad o dan yr adran hon.’.

***Llyr Huws Gruffydd**

Gyda chefnogaeth / Supported by: William Powell

9

To insert a new section –

[] Guidance

- (1) In the exercise of its functions under this Act, a local authority must have regard to guidance given by the Welsh Ministers.
- (2) The Welsh Ministers may –
 - (a) give guidance either generally or to specified descriptions of local authorities;
 - (b) revise the guidance by giving further guidance under this section;
 - (c) withdraw the guidance by giving further guidance under this section or by notice.
- (3) The Welsh Ministers must publish any guidance or notice under this section.’.

I fewnosod adran newydd –

[] Canllawiau

- (1) Wrth arfer ei swyddogaethau o dan y Ddeddf hon, rhaid i awdurdod lleol roi sylw i ganllawiau a roddir gan Weinidogion Cymru.
- (2) Caiff Gweinidogion Cymru –
 - (a) rhoi canllawiau yn gyffredinol neu i ddisgrifiadau penodedig o awdurdodau lleol;
 - (b) diwygio’r canllawiau drwy roi canllawiau pellach o dan yr adran hon;
 - (c) tynnu’r canllawiau yn ôl drwy roi canllawiau pellach o dan yr adran hon neu drwy hysbysiad.
- (3) Rhaid i Weinidogion Cymru gyhoeddi unrhyw ganllawiau neu hysbysiad o dan yr adran hon.’.

***Llyr Huws Gruffydd**

Gyda chefnogaeth / Supported by: William Powell

10

To insert a new section –

[] Costs incurred by third parties

The Welsh Ministers must, within twelve months of Royal Assent, lay before the Assembly a report on the recovery of the costs incurred by individuals and organisations, other than local authorities in the implementation of this Act, because of horses which –

- (a) are in public places without lawful authority, or
- (b) are on other land without the consent of the occupier of the land.’.

I fewnosod adran newydd –

[] Costau a dynnir gan drydydd partïon

Rhaid i Weinidogion Cymru, o fewn deddeung mis i’r Cydsyniad Brenhinol, osod gerbron y Cynulliad adroddiad ar adennill y costau a dynnwyd gan unigolion a sefydliadau, heblaw am awdurdodau lleol, wrth roi’r Ddeddf hon ar waith, oherwydd ceffylau sydd–

- (a) mewn mannau cyhoeddus heb awdurdod cyfreithlon, neu
- (b) ar dir arall heb ganiatâd meddiannydd y tir.’.

Alun Davies

24

Section 9, page 4, line 11, leave out ‘, mule or hinny’ and insert ‘or mule’.

Nid oes angen diwygio’r fersiwn Cymraeg. There is no need to amend the Welsh version



GRWPIO GWELLIANNAU GROUPINGS OF AMENDMENTS

Bil Rheoli Ceffylau (Cymru) Control of Horses (Wales) Bill

Trafodion Cyfnod 2 ar 14 Tachwedd 2013
Stage 2 proceedings on 14 November 2013

Mae'r ddogfen hon yn nodi ym mha drefn y caiff y gwelliannau eu trafod ac unrhyw wybodaeth berthnasol yn ymwneud â'r gweithdrefnau sy'n berthnasol i bob grŵp. Nid yw'r rhestr hon yn disodli'r rhestr o welliannau wedi'u didoli, sy'n nodi'r gwelliannau yn y drefn y cânt eu gwaredu. Dylai'r rhestr hon gael ei darllen ar y cyd â'r rhestr o welliannau wedi'u didoli.

This document provides the order in which amendments will be debated and any relevant procedural information relevant to each group. This list does not replace the marshalled list, which sets out the amendments in the order in which they will be disposed of. This list should be read in conjunction with the marshalled list.

1. Hysbysiadau ynghylch ymafael etc.

1. Notices about seizure etc.

11, 1, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 7

2. Hysbysiadau ynghylch costau

2. Notices about costs

17, 25, 22

3. Gwaredu ceffylau sydd wedi eu cadw

3. Disposal of impounded horses

18, 19, 20, 2, 21

4. Costau a dynnir gan drydydd partïon

4. Costs incurred by third parties

3, 10

5. Apelau

5. Appeals

23, 4, 5, 8

6. Canllawiau

6. Guidance

6, 9

7. Dehongli

7. Interpretation

24

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Agenda Item 3

Environment and Sustainability Committee

Meeting Venue: Committee Room 3 – Senedd

Meeting date: Wednesday, 6 November 2013

Meeting time: 09:00 – 12:30

This meeting can be viewed on Senedd TV at:

http://www.senedd.tv/archiveplayer.jsf?v=en_400000_06_11_2013&t=0&l=en

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



Concise Minutes:

Assembly Members:

Mick Antoniw
Russell George
Llyr Gruffydd
Julie James
Julie Morgan
William Powell
Antoinette Sandbach
Joyce Watson

Witnesses:

James Byrne, Wildlife Trusts Wales
Clive Campbell, South East Wales Transport Alliance
Gareth Clubb, Friends of the Earth Cymru
Professor Stuart Cole, Wales Transport Research Centre,
University of South Wales
Iestyn Davies, Federation of Small Business
Martyn Evans, Natural Resources Wales
Graham Hillier, Natural Resources Wales
Carl Jones, South East Wales Transport Alliance
Keith Jones, Institution of Civil Engineers Wales Cymru
Joshua Miles, Federation of Small Businesses Wales
Simon Nicholls, South East Wales Transport Alliance
Jessica Poole, Natural Resources Wales
Mike Webb, RSPB Cymru

Committee Staff:

Naomi Stocks (Clerk)

Catherine Hunt (Deputy Clerk)

Andrew Minnis (Researcher)

Nia Seaton (Researcher)

Transcript

1 Motion under Standing Order 17.22 to elect temporary Chair

1.1 In the absence of Dafydd Elis-Thomas, William Powell was elected as temporary Chair under Standing Order 17.22.

2 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

2.1 Apologies were received from Dafydd Elis-Thomas. There were no substitutions.

3 Inquiry into the Welsh Government's proposals for the M4 around Newport – Evidence from Natural Resources Wales

3.1 The witnesses responded to questions from members of the Committee.

4 Inquiry into the Welsh Government's proposals for the M4 around Newport – Evidence from Professor Stuart Cole

4.1 Professor Cole responded to questions from members of the Committee, and agreed to provide additional information as requested.

5 Inquiry into the Welsh Government's proposals for the M4 around Newport – Evidence from The Federation of Small Businesses and South East Wales Transport Alliance

5.1 The witnesses responded to questions from members of the Committee.

6 Inquiry into the Welsh Government's proposals for the M4 around Newport – Evidence from Wildlife Trusts Wales, RSPB Cymru and Friends of the Earth Cymru

6.1 The witnesses responded to questions from members of the Committee.

6.2 James Byrne agreed to provide copies of reports to which he referred to during the session.

7 Inquiry into the Welsh Government's proposals for the M4 around Newport – Evidence from the Institution of Civil Engineers Wales Cymru

7.1 Keith Jones responded to questions from members of the Committee.

8 Papers to note

8.1 The Committee noted the minutes.

9 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the meeting for item 9

9.1 The Committee agreed the Motion.

10 Consideration of evidence

10.1 The Committee discussed the evidence it had received.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio
Minister for Housing and Regeneration

Our Ref: SF/CS/3372/13

Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas AM
Chair – Environment and Sustainability Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff CF99 1NA
Email: Dafydd.ellis-thomas@wales.gov.uk

5th November 2013

Dear Dafydd

Responsibility for day to day delivery of planning services resides with unitary authorities and national parks. Funding for the former is included within the Welsh Government's Block Grant to authorities, while funding for national park authorities by the Minister for Culture and Sport includes planning services. This income is supplemented by planning application fees submitted to local planning authorities.

The planning programme budget funds other key elements of the planning and building control systems, ranging from evaluation and development of policies and procedures to inform primary and secondary legislation, planning policy, technical advice notes and practice guidance, through to funding for the Planning Inspectorate and Design Commission for Wales, for example. The budget also includes some funding streams tangential to planning and building control.

While the proposed programme budget reduction of 13.5% for 2014/15 is challenging, my officials have reviewed expenditure, including demand led expenditure and delivery mechanisms. As the demand for certain funding streams has declined, such as the drop in demand for aggregates levy funding from communities affected by aggregate quarrying, this allocation will be reduced in the coming financial year. Efficiency savings will also be expected of organisations funded from planning budget.

The bulk of the work on the Planning (Wales) Bill in 2014/15 involves input by Welsh Government officials rather than necessitating substantive programme expenditure. The forthcoming consultation paper accompanying the draft bill will touch on financial considerations.

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Y Gweinidog Tai ac Adfywio
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