



Darren Millar AM
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
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23 October 2012

Dear Darren

Environment and Sustainability Committee - Short Report on Coastal Protection

As legacy work from the previous Assembly, on 21 March 2012 the Committee agreed to undertake a stock-taking inquiry to assess progress by Welsh Government and Welsh flood risk authorities to implement the National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management, and associated Shoreline Management Plans.

This work follows on from the reports of the Wales Audit Office and National Assembly for Wales' Public Accounts Committee on *Coastal Erosion and Tidal Flooding Risk in Wales*, published in October 2009 and May 2010 respectively. I am therefore writing to bring your attention to the Committee's inquiry report, which is published today, Monday 22 October. The Wales Audit Office has also been made aware of the Committee's work in this area.

Given that the National Strategy has been in place less than a year, the Committee proposes keeping a watching brief on progress and undertaking a further review when the second generation of Shoreline Management Plans are more bedded in. The Committee's 11 recommendations include: seeking assurances that the Welsh Government will report on the outcome of plans and activities arising from the National Strategy by early 2014 (Rec. 4); and that a further update on implementation of the Single Investment Programme for coastal protection work will be provided to us by autumn 2013 (Rec. 8).

I hope that this is helpful to your Committee in planning its forward work programme, and am copying this letter to the Auditor General for Wales for his information.

Yours sincerely

Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas AM
Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee

CC: Huw Vaughan Thomas, Auditor General for Wales