

Jack Sargeant MS Chair of the Petitions Committee Senedd Cymru **Cardiff Bay** Cardiff CF99 1SN

Our ref: P0266/EJ/ES

24 May 2022

Dear Jack,

Re: Petition P-06-1248: Change Standing Orders and admissibility criteria for petitions

Thank you for your letter of 20 April 2022 asking for my views on Petition P-06-1248.

I have considered the content of the petition and am of the view that we should not make any changes to the current position. I am of the opinion that it is not appropriate for the Senedd or the Committee to intervene in operational decisions or actions of local authorities given:

- Local authorities are democratic bodies, with elected representatives.
- There are specific processes in place relating to planning matters.
- The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 sets out requirements to promote access to local government including establishment of petitions processes.
- Changing the criteria could have a significant and disproportionate resource implications for the Committee.

I trust that this will aid the Committee in its work.

Yours sincerely,

Hir fores

Rt. Hon. Elin Jones MS

Llywydd



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