

Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS  
Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog ac Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros  
Newid Hinsawdd a Materion Gwledig  
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate  
Change and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-06-1474/1447  
Ein cyf/Our ref HIDCC/10614/24

Carolyn Thomas MS  
Chair - Petitions committee

10<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Dear Carolyn,

Thank you for your letter of 15 November on behalf of the Petitions Committee regarding Petitions P-06-1474 and P-06-1447 and the future of Natural Resources Wales' visitor centres.

I am pleased to inform you that visitor centre provisions will remain in place until the 31 March 2025 whilst activity gets underway, at pace, in engaging with the community and prospective partners. This will allow Natural Resources Wales the time to arrange interim measures at each site ready for the start of the new financial year. These measures include a concession contract for a coffee cart at each site, ice cream concession for the summer months and continuation of other contracts such as grounds maintenance.

You may be aware that Natural Resources Wales recently hosted three public engagement sessions to update local communities. These took place for Ynyslas (Borth Community Hall, High Street, Borth, SY24 5LH on Monday, 25 November, 7pm), Bwlch Nant yr Arian (Neuadd Penllwyn Capel Bangor, Aberystwyth, SY23 3LS on Tuesday, 26 November, 6:30pm) and Coed y Brenin (Ganllwyd Village Hall, Llanfar, Y Llai, Ganllwyd, LL40 2TF on Wednesday, 27 November, 6:30pm).

Following the meeting on 25 November, Natural Resources Wales opened a community expression of interest for four weeks to allow members of the public to propose ways they can use the space at Ynyslas. Ynyslas is in a unique position as it sits within a nature reserve and has very specific, statutory needs and requirements so will be offered as a limited, community opportunity for "use of space".

The proposal for Nant yr Arian and Coed Y Brenin needs further development and consideration before being offered to open market following public service procurement guidelines. Natural Resources Wales aspires to enhance the visitor centre provision to help support tourism and serve the needs of local communities. Natural Resources Wales is considering whether there is scope to increase the value

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

of the visitor centres for users and whether extending the offer beyond retail and catering will provide additional attraction to the tourism industry.

I hope you find this information useful and thank you, again, for writing to me on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a stylized representation of the name 'Huw Irranca-Davies'.

**Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS**

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