



Carolyn Thomas MS
Chair of Petitions Committee
Senedd
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1SN

6th March 2025

Dear Chair,

**Petition regarding mandating swift bricks in all new buildings in Wales
(P-06-1489)**

As you will be aware, RSPB Cymru is supporting the petition (P-06-1489) which calls on the Welsh Government to mandate the instalment of Swift Bricks in new builds.

We have been advised that the petition is likely to be discussed imminently in the Committee and we wanted to take this opportunity to highlight the urgency of this issue with the Committee.

We welcome the Committee's consideration of this issue. Swifts are now the most steeply declining bird species in Wales. Populations have dropped by 76% since 1995, and although there are thought to be a number of contributing factors to their decline, the loss of suitable nesting sites is one we can and must address. Without more nesting options, Swifts will disappear from our skies. Swift Bricks are a simple and effective means of supporting Swifts when so many nesting sites have been lost. But there is a need for urgency in addressing

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The RSPB is part of BirdLife International, a network of passionate organisations, working together to save nature across the world.

this issue for Swift populations, as each year of delay to implement this measure will leave more Swifts without nest sites. More than three-quarters of Wales' breeding Swifts have been lost since 1995.

In light of recent reports from the Climate Change, Environment & Infrastructure Committee and Audit Wales, highlighting the urgent need to prioritise action for Welsh biodiversity, and given the strong support for this petition from the public (10,934 signatures), we hope it will warrant debate in the wider Senedd.

We would welcome this letter being considered alongside the petition when the Committee next discusses the matter.

Yours sincerely,



Julian Hughes
Head of Species

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