



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Mark Isherwood MS  
Chair  
Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee  
Senedd Cymru  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

28 April 2025

Dear Chair

## **GILESTONE FARM**

Thank you for your letter of 20 March seeking an update on the position with Gilestone Farm. My responses to the Committee's questions are set out below.

Has the Welsh Government sought an updated valuation for Gilestone Farm?

Gilestone Farm was assessed as part of the Welsh Government's annual asset valuation process in March 2025. The property was valued at £3,750,000, with a comment placed on the valuation noting that the presence of ospreys on the site inevitably brings some uncertainty to the process.

Has the existing agricultural lease been extended and on what terms?

Are there any new tenancy opportunities currently being explored? If not, do you have any other proposals for the use of the land (other commercial activities/nature recovery etc)?

Is the Welsh Government considering the sale of the Farm? If not, at what point is this likely if there are no further tenancy or other opportunities identified?

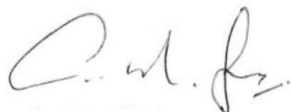
The property is leased on commercial terms via a Farm Business Tenancy to November 2025, and officials are currently considering options for farm management arrangements beyond that period. Members of the Committee will appreciate the significance of the nesting ospreys at the site, and I can confirm the ospreys have recently returned and within days of their arrival have laid an egg. The birds' welfare, and the protection of the nest, continue to be critical factors when considering future options for the site.

Parc Cathays/Cathays Park  
Caerdydd/Cardiff  
CF10 3NQ

I will write again to the Committee when I am able to provide an update on our proposals for the site.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'A. Slade', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Andrew Slade**

Director General

Economy, Energy and Transport