

Ken Skates MS

Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales

5 January 2026

Dear Ken,

### **Holyhead berthing incident, December 2025**

I am writing following the closure of Terminal 5 at Holyhead Port after a berthing incident on Friday, 5 December. As you will know, after the berthing incident last year and the subsequent closure, the Committee has been monitoring developments at the port and their impact on the economy and trade. The Committee is seeking to understand both the immediate and longer-term implications of these incidents for port operations and regional trade.

I am pleased to note that the port managed to maintain a full sailing schedule. However, it is concerning that almost exactly a year later a similar incident has occurred and part of the port has yet again had to be closed.

We would appreciate if you could answer the following questions regarding this latest incident at the Port:

1. Whilst the Port has maintained a full sailing schedule, can you confirm whether the closure of Terminal 5 has affected crossings in any way? For instance, has there been any impact on passenger or freight capacity, or on the ability to load cargo efficiently?
2. Can you provide details on any changes in trade volume or economic activity directly attributable to the closure of Terminal 5?
3. Were you satisfied with the response to this berthing incident? Specifically, were lessons learnt from the previous closure effectively implemented, and how did these measures influence the handling of the recent event?



4. Given that another berthing incident has led to the closure of the port, what specific actions are being undertaken by Welsh Government and its partners to prevent further incidents? Additionally, what contingency plans are in place to ensure the port can remain operational should such incidents occur?
5. Is there any further information you wish to share regarding the berthing incident and the subsequent closure of Terminal 5?

Thank you for considering these questions. We would appreciate receiving your response by 5 February to assist with our ongoing work.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew RT Davies". The signature is written in a cursive style with some capital letters.

Andrew RT Davies MS

Chair: Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English

