

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-06-1572
Ein cyf/Our ref HIDCC/00019/26

Carolyn Thomas MS
Chair - Petitions committee

26 January 2026

Dear Carolyn,

Thank you for seeking our views on Petition P-06-1572 regarding flooding on the B4318 and across the wider Tenby catchment.

We recognise the disruption that flooding causes in this area, and the concerns raised about surface water runoff, high river levels and tidal locking at the South Beach outfall. Flood risk here is influenced by several factors, including river capacity, local drainage and coastal discharge. Responsibilities are shared between the relevant Risk Management Authorities (RMAs) as follows:

- Pembrokeshire County Council: the highway and upstream watercourses
- Natural Resources Wales (NRW): the watercourse downstream of the highway bridge

The Welsh Government's Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Programme prioritises investment that delivers the greatest reduction in risk to homes and businesses. As flooding at this location primarily affects transport rather than residential or commercial properties, it does not currently meet the criteria for FCERM capital funding.

RMAs, local authorities and NRW, are responsible for developing flood risk management schemes in line with the National FCERM Strategy, which places reducing risk to life as the highest priority.

NRW is currently undertaking a detailed appraisal of future flood risk management options for the River Ritec catchment. This includes assessing both fluvial flood risk and the impact of the tidal outfall. A shortlist of options is being developed, with an Outline Business Case expected in summer 2026.

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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.

NRW acknowledges the interaction between surface water, highway drainage and the River Ritec, and all RMAs will need to collaborate to develop a long-term solution. Whilst NRW is hopeful that any works they deliver will help reduce the flood risk to the community, flooding of the highway and wider surface water flood risk is for other Risk Management Authorities to consider.

If action on the highway network would alleviate or resolve the problem, then this could be considered by Pembrokeshire County Council as the relevant Highway Authority. The Welsh Government provides specific transport grants to Local Authorities, many of which are being collated into a single Regional Transport Fund for Financial Year 2026/27 to align with delivery of the Regional Transport Plan produced by the Southwest Wales Corporate Joint Committee.

Welsh Government officials will continue to keep this location under review as part of broader climate adaptation planning. Should the risk to homes and businesses increase, its eligibility for FCERM funding will be reconsidered.

Thank you for writing to me on behalf of the Petitions Committee. I hope this response is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Huw Irranca-Davies', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS

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