



Ein cyf/Our ref FM -/00264/22

Jack Sargeant MS
Chair
Petitions Committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Petitions@senedd.wales

29 April 2022

Dear Jack,

I am writing in response to your letter regarding Petition P-06-1270 *Make October 21st an official Memorial Day for those killed and affected by the Aberfan Disaster*.

Every year, on 21 October, we remember the 116 children and 28 adults killed at Pantglas School and neighbouring homes on 21 October 1966. The memory of this day will continue to live with us all in Wales. The Welsh Government has provided financial support to the Aberfan Memorial Charity to help with the maintenance of the memorial gardens and the Aberfan Education Charity for school projects in Aberfan and Merthyr Vale.

Unfortunately, we do not have the powers to designate national days – this rests with the UK Government.

Yours sincerely,

MARK DRAKEFORD

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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.