

## PCB04 Cymorth Cynllunio Cymru | Planning Aid Wales

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Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

Y Pwyllgor Deddfwriaeth Cyfiawnder a'r Cyfansoddiad | Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

Gwaith craffu ar Filiau Cydgrynhai Llywodraeth Cymru ym maes cynllunio | Scrutiny of the Welsh Government's planning Consolidation Bills

Ymateb gan: Cymorth Cynllunio Cymru | Evidence from: Planning Aid Wales

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Mike Hedges MS  
Legislation Justice and Constitution Committee  
Welsh Parliament  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff CF99 1SN

7<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Dear Mike,

## Scrutiny of the Welsh Government's Planning Consolidation Bills

Thank you for your letter dated 16<sup>th</sup> September 2025 and you associated invite to Planning Aid Wales regarding the above. Planning Aid Wales is the national charity working to ensure that individuals and communities can engage meaningfully in the planning system in Wales. Our work centres on building public understanding of planning policy and legislation, and enabling effective participation in planning decisions at both local and national levels.

Against that backdrop, Planning Aid Wales warmly welcomes any initiative that consolidates existing strands of planning legislation. Consolidation serves an important purpose in drawing dispersed provisions into a coherent whole, reducing duplication, and improving the accessibility of the law for practitioners, decision-makers and, crucially, members of the public. In our experience, the complexity of the planning system can act as a barrier to engagement; any steps to present the law more clearly and consistently therefore represent a valuable and positive development. As we understand it, the Consolidation Bill does not any new legislation and for reasons outlined above, we have no specific comments.

We would stress the importance of ensuring that the eventual legislation is not only drafted with clarity and consistency but also supported by accessible resources to raise awareness and understanding amongst the public. In our view, there is significant value in producing plain-language, easy-to-read guidance to accompany the Bills once enacted. Such materials would help communities and individuals recognise the relevance of the legislation to their rights and responsibilities within the planning system, and in turn, strengthen public trust and participation.

Yours sincerely,

**Chief Executive**  
**Planning Aid Wales**

**Rudym yn cefnogi ymgysylltia a cynunedol mewn cynllunio**

**We support community engagement in planning**

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