

Dafydd Elis-Thomas AC/AM
Y Gweinidog Diwylliant, Twristiaeth a Chwaraeon
Minister for Culture, Tourism and Sport



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-772
Ein cyf/Our ref DET/05007/17

David John Rowlands AM
Chair - Petitions committee.
government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk

21 November 2017

Dear David,

Thank you for your letter of 24 October which asks for confirmation that the "iron ring" sculpture will not be going ahead as part of the investment in Flint Castle. I can confirm that that is the case.

The Welsh Government has acknowledged that the proposal for the Iron Ring sculpture at Flint Castle has been divisive and, following extremely constructive and productive meetings with local stakeholders, the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure took the decision to cancel the project in September. I am sorry that his letter to you dated 20 September did not reflect the updated position, as set out in the Welsh Government's press statement of 7 September.

For clarification, we will use the investment allocated for the artwork as a contribution to the wider masterplan for the foreshore, taking in the views of local people. This will include developing a range of capital investments for the area and holding a number of events and activities to increase the understanding of the history of the Castle and the significance of the foreshore. Alongside Flintshire County Council and Flint Town Council, we see development of the masterplan as a high priority.

In relation to any future public artwork, I understand that the early indications are that the local community has shown enthusiasm for something that could provide a real visitor destination piece. Flintshire County Council will now, through an arts based engagement commission, be exploring the views and thoughts of the community before taking any proposals forward. This work would be led by the Council, rather than Welsh Government.

Yours sincerely,

Dafydd Elis-Thomas AC/AM
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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.