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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-328
Ein cyf/Our ref EH/05306/11

William Powell AM
Chair Petition's committee

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

RE July 2011

Dear William

Thank you for letter of 5 July 2011 about the petition your Committee has received on the Marine Coastguard Agency's (MCA) proposals for closing or downgrading Wales's three Maritime Rescue Coordination Centres.

I share the petitioner's concerns that these proposals have not been properly thought out. Whilst the UK Government has now decided that Milford Haven and Holyhead will remain open is good news, the closure of Swansea represents a risk to the safety of mariners and other coastal users, including tourists, in that area.

This is a non-devolved matter and responsibility for the safety of our coastal users lies with the MCA and the relevant local authorities. It is up to the UK Government to account for the consequences of their actions.