

Edwina Hart MBE CStJ AC / AM  
Gweinidog yr Economi, Gwyddoniaeth a Thrafnidiaeth  
Minister for Economy, Science and Transport



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-657  
Ein cyf/Our ref EH/04429/15

William Powell AM  
Chair, Petitions Committee

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

16 October 2015

Dear William

Thank you for your letter of 12 October regarding the petition you have received in relation to charging for parking and the relationship to high streets.

Each local authority is responsible for setting parking charges in its own car parks and the Welsh Government does not have powers to intervene or challenge those decisions. In June, I published research that I commissioned to examine the relationship between car parking charges and town centre footfall in Wales. The research can be accessed through the following link:

<http://gov.wales/docs/caecd/research/2015/150610-assessing-impact-car-parking-charges-town-centre-footfall-en.pdf>

I recognise that there is a range of views about the relationship between car parking provisions and high street activity. I believe that local authorities are best placed to determine the charges to be levied in their own car parks as part of their overall car parking strategy. When setting this strategy, I believe it is important that local authorities should consult widely and fully with local people and businesses.

*Edwina Hart*

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

English Enquiry Line 0300 0603300  
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0300 0604400  
[Correspondence.edwina.Hart@Wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Correspondence.edwina.Hart@Wales.gsi.gov.uk)

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.