



Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru Countryside Council for Wales

CADEIRYDD/CHAIRMAN: MORGAN PARRY • PRIF WEITHREDWR/CHIEF EXECUTIVE: ROGER THOMAS

Anfonwch eich ateb at/Please reply to: Roger Thomas, Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive
Cyfeiriad Isod/Address Below
Llinell Union/Direct Line: 01248 387146; Ffacs/Fax: 01248 385506
Ebost/Email: n.sanpher@ccw.gov.uk

Abigail Phillips
Clerk to Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

7 June 2012

Dear Ms Phillips

PETITIONS COMMITTEE- GOWER SOCIETY PETITION RE: PROPOSED GOWER AONB

This is in response to William Powell's letter of 21st May 2012, regarding the Gower Society's proposal for CCW to give consideration towards extending the Gower AONB.

CCW welcomes the Gower Society's interest in this matter and, as you will be aware, we receive a number of such requests on a regular basis. We have been consistent and clear in all our responses to the Gower Society, that we are concentrating resources on finalising work in relation to the Clwydian Range & Dee Valley AONB. In addition, our work on the Y Berwyn & Ceiriog Valley needs to be concluded before any new proposals can be formally considered.

As set out previously, the technical, legal and lengthy nature of the designation process means that it is not possible to conclude this before we lose our statutory designation powers. In the interim period before the new Single Body's establishment, we will be concentrating our reduced staff resources on supporting operational readiness for the new organisation and meeting our agreed Remit Letter targets. The latter includes progressing the work in North East Wales outlined above, which is likely to go forward into the Single Body.

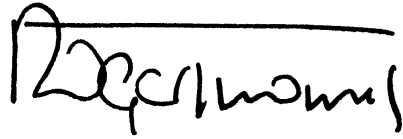
In Sustaining a Living Wales, Welsh Government have also announced their intention to undertake a review of all designations in order to inform the proposed Environment Bill. It is possible that this proposal may make changes to the statutory purposes of Protected Landscapes and provide opportunities for new types of landscape designations, which could become available for consideration. For all these reasons, I hope that you will understand that it would not be appropriate or feasible for CCW to proceed with consideration of this proposal at the current time.



Gofalu am natur Cymru - ar y tir ac yn y môr • Caring for our natural heritage - on land and in the sea

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance with the Committee's work.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger Thomas". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned below a horizontal line.

Roger Thomas
Chief Executive