

Claire Pillman
Chief Executive, Natural Resources Wales
Welsh Government Offices
Cathays Park
King Edward VII Avenue
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

Copied to the Chair of the Senedd's Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee

16 September 2024

Dear Claire

Petition P-06-1474 Stop Natural Resources Wales closing Bwlch Nant yr Arian, Coed y Brenin & Ynyslas visitor centres

Today the Petitions Committee considered the following petition from Gareth Jones, which has been collecting signatures on our website. The petition has 13,245 signatures, of which 8,270 are Wales only. The petitioners wanted it to be considered today because they believe the NRW Executive team will be making a final decision to close all visitor centres around 20 September.

Petition text

Stop Natural Resources Wales closing Bwlch Nant yr Arian, Coed y Brenin & Ynyslas visitor centres

Closure of these centres runs contrary to the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act 2015.

The closure of these visitor centres would have a far-reaching negative impact on the local economy, environment, and community well-being.

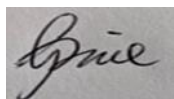
The Committee has also received correspondence co-signed by Cycling UK, Beicio Cymru, the UK MTB Trail Alliance, Mountain Bike Wales and the Wales Adventure Tourism Organisation, along with over 90 other groups, organisations and businesses, also raising concerns about the impact of these proposed closures.

Alongside this petition, the Committee also considered your response of 14 August on a related petition [P-06-1447 Stop Natural Resources Wales closing the visitor centre at Ynyslas National Nature Reserve](#) from Kim Williams. The Committee previously wrote to you to seek clarification about the decision to close Ynyslas visitor centre, and has also kept the Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee informed of this issue.

Given the urgency of the situation, the Committee is writing to share the concerns of the petitioners and other interested parties in advance of NRW making its decision. The Committee will also be requesting a plenary debate on this petition, regardless of the decision taken by NRW.

I would be grateful if you could keep the Committee updated on the outcome of the NRW Board's deliberations on this issue, by e-mailing the clerking team at petitions@senedd.wales.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Price

Petitions Committee Clerk

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.