

**Pwyllgor Newid Hinsawdd,
yr Amgylchedd a Seilwaith**

—
**Climate Change, Environment,
and Infrastructure Committee**

Senedd Cymru

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Tom Carrick

Access and Conservation Officer for the BMC (Cymru)

21 July 2025

Dear Tom,

Thank you for your letter dated 4 June (received on 1 July) and for your interest in the work of the CCEI Committee.

In light of the increasing interest in the Committee's role in the scrutiny of Natural Resources Wales (NRW), I thought it would be helpful to clarify the remit of the Committee insofar as it relates to NRW.

The Committee

The Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee has been set up by the Senedd to look at policy and legislation, and to hold the Welsh Government to account in specific areas. These areas include climate change policy, the environment, energy; planning; transport, and connectivity.

Our work programme

Our current work programme includes scrutiny of Welsh government proposed legislation, including the Bus Services (Wales) Bill the Environmental Governance Bill.

The Committee is also taking forward inquiries such as the response to the recent storms, and the UK-EU implementation review of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement. More information on our current and future work programme can be found on the [Committee's website](#).

Finally, the Committee also performs a role scrutinising a number of external bodies, this includes [Transport for Wales](#), the [National Infrastructure Commission for Wales \(NICW\)](#), the [Interim Environmental Protection Assessor for Wales \(IEPAW\)](#) and [Natural Resources Wales \(NRW\)](#).



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Natural Resources Wales

As a Welsh Government Sponsored Body, NRW is accountable to Welsh Ministers (currently the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, Huw Irranca-Davies MS) and subject to scrutiny by Senedd Committees.

NRW's Board is responsible for ensuring it exercises its statutory functions appropriately and effectively. It is therefore NRW's responsibility to make operational decisions but in doing so, it is accountable to the Welsh Government and subject to Senedd scrutiny.

The annual scrutiny of Natural Resources Wales

The Committee held an annual scrutiny session with representatives of NRW on 12 March. [You can read the transcript of the session here.](#)

The Committee welcomes correspondence from interested parties, has taken up these issues with NRW as part of its general scrutiny and has reflected on evidence to consider its final report.

However, given the Committee's remit and the breadth of its responsibilities, the Committee is not in a position to enter into detailed oversight of operational decisions taken by NRW.

Nevertheless, the Committee did consider the issues around the visitor centres as part of its general scrutiny and made recommendation for both NRW and the Welsh Government on these matters.

The Committee has been extremely concerned at the situation with regard to the visitor centres and any potential impact on the wider sites. Whilst we have been assured that access to the sites is not impacted, we recommended that NRW must urgently provide a credible plan to reopen all three visitor centres.

The Committee's report is published [here](#) and both the Welsh Government and Natural Resources Wales have now responded to each specific recommendation.

Next steps

Following this, a plenary debate will be held in the Senedd, where any individual Member of the Senedd will be able to contribute to the debate. This is likely to take place in the autumn.

You can keep up to date with this and the rest of the work of the Committee [on our webpage.](#)

Yours sincerely,



Llyr Gruffydd MS,
Chair, Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.