

Y Pwyllgor Deisebau Petitions Committee

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru
National
Assembly for
Wales



Bae Caerdydd / Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd / Cardiff CF99 1NA

October 2011

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Petitions Committee of the National Assembly for Wales has received the following petition:

'We call upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to support the establishment of a Welsh international cricket team.'

Whereas Scotland and Ireland gained associate membership of the International Cricket Council (ICC) and went on to compete in World Cups, Wales has failed to do so. In fact, no Welsh player has played international cricket for over five years as a result of being affiliated to the England Cricket Board. Recently the England and Wales cricket team played several "home" games in the capital of Wales, although no Welsh players were present. It would be unacceptable in other sports, like rugby, for a team comprised entirely of non-Welsh people, playing under a non-Welsh flag, with the badge of another country on their chest, to ostensibly play a "home" game in the Welsh capital. This would simply not be acceptable for other sports and should not be so for cricket. The current arrangements do not foster the game of cricket in Wales and are to its detriment because there is a lack of opportunity for Welsh cricketers to play at the highest level. At present Wales is completely unrepresented in international cricket and this must change with the establishment of an Welsh international cricket team.'

We are interested in receiving views from individuals, groups and organisations on the subject of this petition. These views will be used as evidence by the Petitions Committee in its consideration of the petition.

Questions you may wish to consider in responding

1. Do you feel that the action called for is reasonable and/or feasible?

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2. Is there evidence to support the assertion that the current arrangements mean that Welsh cricketers do not have access to the same opportunities as cricketers from other UK nations?
3. What are the barriers to establishing a Welsh international cricket team?
4. Should the ECB (England and Wales Cricket Board) team play home games in Wales? What are the arguments for and against this?

If you would like to submit evidence, we would be grateful to receive it by **Thursday, 17** November 2011. Further guidance on the submission of evidence is attached.

We would be grateful if you could share this request with other interested parties or, where appropriate, any of your member organisations.

Yours faithfully,



Abigail Phillips
Clerk to the Petitions Committee

Advice on Submitting Evidence

- The Committee may call on those who have submitted written evidence to supplement it in oral evidence to the Committee. Please indicate in your response whether you would be prepared to give evidence in person.
- Witnesses should be aware that once written evidence has been submitted to the Committee it is treated as the property of the Committee. Written evidence will be published on the Committee's website, and extracts may subsequently be included in the report.
- The Assembly will not publish information which it considers to be personal data. If you are providing any information, other than personal data, which you feel is not suitable for public disclosure, it is up to you to stipulate which parts should not be published. You should provide a reasoned argument to support this. The National Assembly will take this into account when publishing information or responding to requests for information.
- In the event of a request for information submitted under UK legislation, it may be necessary to disclose the information that you provide. This may include information which has previously been removed by the National Assembly for publication purposes.