John Griffiths AC /AM Y Gweinidog Diwylliant a Chwaraeon Minister for Culture and Sport



Eich cyf/Your ref P-03-263 Ein cyf/Our ref JG/00979/13

William Powell AM AM for Mid & West Wales Chair Petitions Committee

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

1 August 2013

## Dear William

Thank you for your letter of 26 June about the lead petitioner, Mr Vaughan Jones', request for Cadw to spot-register the pitch at Stradey Park. My officials in Cadw also received the request direct from Mr Jones and have replied explaining that too many key features have been lost for the pitch to be registered.

To be included on the *Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest*, any sporting or recreational venue will usually need to retain all or most of its component parts in situ. My officials therefore considered the request to register the pitch in its context as one component of a wider sporting complex, which included the stadium, ancillary buildings, structures and land. Cadw recognises the cultural significance of the game of Rugby to the Welsh nation and the notable historical associations attached to Stradey Park. However, it is considered that notwithstanding the retention of the pitch, the complex as a whole has lost too many of its key features (for example the stadium, the posts, scoreboard, stands etc) to be included on the Register.

I understand that this decision will be disappointing for the petitioner but Cadw will continue to take forward guidance relating to the protection of sporting heritage as part of the package of measures being developed in connection with the Heritage Bill.

John Griffiths AC / AM

Y Gweinidog Diwylliant a Chwaraeon Minister for Culture and Sport