

Huw Lewis AC / AM  
Y Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth  
Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-03-263  
Ein cyf/Our ref HL/05333/11

William Powell AM  
Chair Petitions' Committee  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

*Dean Willison*

31 August 2011

Thank you for your letter of 29 June about our sporting heritage, in the wake of the Committee's consideration of the petition about the grounds of Stradey Park. I am sorry for the delay in replying.

I am aware of the Committee's inquiry and the previous correspondence. My officials in Cadw are continuing to work on guidance to identify sites of importance to local communities, including places which are known for their sporting heritage. As a first step they have undertaken work to explore the scope for including open-air sports sites on the Register of historic parks and gardens in their own right as sporting venues, as well as identifying sports sites which lie within registered historic parks and gardens, such as the cricket pitch in Sophia Gardens, Cardiff, and the tennis courts in Ynys Angharad Park, Pontypridd.

The Royal Commission is continuing to prepare its book on sports heritage and an early draft is expected shortly. Once this is available, it will provide my officials with a good information base that will allow them to set out general principles about the approach to conservation for sports heritage sites.

As for more detailed guidance, as you say, the new legislative programme for Wales includes a commitment to seeking to introduce a Heritage Bill in 2014-15. As part of the lead up to that Bill, I want to ensure that we have a full debate, involving a wide range of interests, on all aspects of the historic environment. I want to consider the issues currently facing the historic environment and what we need to do to make improvements and to tackle any shortcomings. Consideration of detailed guidance on locally important and sporting heritage will form part of the debate.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

*Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)*

English Enquiry Line 0845 010 3300  
Llinell Ymholiadau Cymraeg 0845 010 4400  
Correspondence.huw.lewis@wales.gsi.gov.uk  
*Printed on 100% recycled paper*

My officials will be planning a series of workshops and seminars to capture opinions and I shall certainly ensure the issues of interest to the Committee form part of the discussion.

*Bob Wicks*  
*Huw*

**Huw Lewis AC / AM**  
Y Gweinidog Tai, Adfywio a Threftadaeth  
Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage