

Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Newid Hinsawdd a Materion  
Gwledig  
Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change & Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref: P-06-1367  
Ein cyf/Our ref: HID/PO/108/24

Janet Finch-Saunders MS  
Senedd Member for Aberconwy  
Welsh Parliament  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

3 April 2024

Dear Janet,

Further to the plenary session of 20 March 2024, the Minister for Climate Change committed to writing to you regarding proposals to install a section of sandy beach on Llandudno North Shore. As Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, flood risk management now falls within my portfolio.

The Minister for Climate Change stated that Conwy County Borough Council's outline business case had identified 2 options to reduce flood risk to Llandudno. The preferred option was estimated to cost £854,000 and would reduce the risk from both the West and North Shores. The preferred option would provide a 1 in 200 standard of protection to the town until 2070, at which point a set-back wall would be required on the Llandudno North Shore to mitigate the risks associated with wave overtopping.

The outline business case also identified an alternative option which featured the installation of a 600m section of sandy beach. The alternative option was estimated to cost £12.54m, which is 14 times more expensive. The alternative option would require the removal of an existing shingle revetment, provide no additional flood protection to the town and would still require the construction of a set-back wall in 2070. The outline business case is the point at which Risk Management Authorities compare all available options, before selecting a single option to take forward to detailed design. This was therefore the last point in the development of the scheme where both options were subject to a detailed economic appraisal.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Conwy County Borough Council subsequently updated their preferred option during the detailed design phase, which has led to an increase in the overall cost of the scheme. They have opted to bring forward the construction of the set-back wall. By choosing to construct the wall earlier, the local authority will provide the town with a significantly higher standard of protection in the short term, whilst also guarding against the future risk of flooding associated with sea level rise. Conwy have done this to take advantage of the unique funding opportunity offered by the Coastal Risk Management Programme. The time-limited programme was established to respond to the challenges of climate change and manage current and future risks as identified in the Shoreline Management Plans.

I am pleased to confirm that funding for the Llandudno Coastal Risk Management Scheme was agreed on 26 March. The local authority's decision to bring forward the construction of a set-back wall mean that the scheme will now cost £5.2m. I acknowledge the costs associated with delivering the scheme have increased since the outline business case. However, this was due to a pragmatic decision taken by the local authority to bring forward their investment and take advantage of the funding available through the Coastal Risk Management Programme.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Huw Irranca-Davies', written in a cursive style.

**Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS**

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