



Janet Finch-Saunders MS|AS

Aelod Senedd Cymru dros Aberconwy
Member of the Welsh Parliament for Aberconwy



Councillor Charlie McCoubrey,
Leader of Conwy County Borough Council,
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Via Email.

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Re: Storm Damage - Llanfairfechan

Dear Leader of the Cabinet, Cllr. Charlie McCoubrey,

I hope this letter finds you and your Cabinet well.

Further to receiving reports of renewed damage to the Llanfairfechan coastal path and sea wall by the storm over the weekend, with correspondence from constituents outlining that waves may have now swept railings and restoration works away, I am writing to explore what assessment has been undertaken of the recent damage and to ask for an update on the bid being submitted by the Local Authority to the Welsh Government.

As you will be aware, the public right of way was previously hindered by a breach in the sea wall on 5 October 2021, leaving homes more vulnerable to flooding. I should like to commend your Cabinet for their quick action to vote to carry out urgent repairs under the Building Act 1984. Whilst I do recognise that the funding for this work will come out of Conwy's capital budget, to be recouped upon tracing the landowner, please be assured that I will look again to question to the First Minister on the issue of flooding contingency funding during the Senedd Plenary session this week. Given the concerns raised by constituents, I would be most grateful if you could outline what assessments have been undertaken to review the works required and confirm what progress has been made on locating the relevant landowner.

I am also aware that Conwy County Borough Council were to submit a formal bid for funding for the Llandudno Coastal Defence Improvements. Indeed, in the Cabinet meeting held on 8 June 2021 one of the resolutions was 'that Option 2, as outlined within the report, be identified as the single preferred option for detailed design and that the Welsh Government be notified.' I would be most grateful if your letter of reply could kindly clarify whether the Welsh Government has been notified by the Local Authority that a single preferred option has been identified and update on any progress made to push forward such improvement works.

I have previously raised a number of concerns about the funding offered by the Welsh Government, which often provides support on a first-come-first-served basis. Given the expected increase in such torrid weather and the impact that this will have on local infrastructure, I will continue to make clear that there is a role for Welsh Government to financially assist local authorities when unexpected and long-term damage does occur. I trust that this action will be of some reassurance to you.

Kind regards,

Janet Finch-Saunders MS/AS

Janet Finch-Saunders will deal with all personal data in accordance with her privacy notice which is available on www.janetfinchsaunders.org.uk/privacy or on request from my office.

Bydd Janet Finch-Saunders yn delio â'r holl ddata personol yn ôl ei hysbysiad preifatrwydd. Mae hwn ar gael yn ei swyddfa ac yn fan hyn: www.janetfinchsaunders.org.uk/privacy