

Julie James AS/MS  
Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd  
Minister for Climate Change



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref JJ/12316/21

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07 January 2022

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter of 6 December regarding storm damage to the sea wall in Llanfairfechan.

My officials have spoken with Conwy County Borough Council regarding the damage to the sea wall at Llanfairfechan. Those conversations confirmed there is no clear link between the damage sustained to the sea wall and an immediate increase in flooding or erosion risk to the properties on West Shore Road in Llanfairfechan. The Welsh Government prioritise investment based on reducing risk to homes and businesses first and foremost.

My officials continue to work closely with counterparts in Risk Management Authorities (RMAs), however, assessing the need for potential schemes and bringing forward applications for funding remains the responsibility of each RMA to consider. In order to apply for grant funding the RMA must bring forward a business case which demonstrates flood risk to properties and assesses a range of options to address this risk.

Following severe weather events, the Welsh Government can provide revenue funding to local authorities towards the cost of emergency repairs to local infrastructure through the Emergency Financial Assistance Scheme. This may be activated to give exceptional financial assistance to local authorities that would otherwise be faced with an undue financial burden of providing relief and carrying out immediate work due to large scale emergencies. There is no automatic entitlement to financial assistance, local authorities have statutory powers to deal with emergencies and are expected to plan accordingly.

Subject to available budgets, the Welsh Government Flood Risk Management Programme may also provide in-year funding for small scale works to existing Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management infrastructure and, in exceptional circumstances, funding for emergency repairs. Following the February 2020 floods, we awarded local authorities and NRW £8.9 million to make emergency repairs to damaged flood assets across Wales. Furthermore, our small scale works grant has provided over £16.5m across all 22 Local Authorities since 2015-16, benefitting over 9,600 properties.

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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.

The Welsh Government also provides revenue funding to local authorities. This month I have made an additional £95,000 revenue funding available to each local authority, to support essential maintenance work this winter.

I understand Conwy Council have submitted a separate application to the resilient roads fund, which will be considered by Welsh Government Transport colleagues in due course.

Yours sincerely,



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