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Mr. Emyr Williams,  
Chief Executive,  
Snowdonia National Park Authority,  
**Via email**

28/04/2022

**Re: Closure of Snowdon summit building**

Dear Chief Executive, Emyr,

I hope this letter finds you well.

I am writing in relation to concerns that have been raised with me by constituents regarding the recent news that the building located at the summit of Snowdon will be closed for the duration of the tourist season.

I am aware that your organisation has only recently made this public announcement and have advised that the closure of this facility will prevent public access to toilets, food or drink and recycling and waste disposal bins normally accessible at this location.

Such news has raised serious concerns ahead of the busy summer months, with some of my constituents being concerned that the lack of appropriate litter or recycling bins may well dramatically increase the presence of litter and food waste on and within the vicinity of Snowdon. Given that littering of our national park is already a source of significant concern, it has been suggested that the closure of this facility may further exacerbate this situation.

In addition to this, many have also highlighted the detrimental impact the closure of public toilets will have on the many thousands of residents and tourists who visit and summit this mountain each year. With some individuals taking several hours to ascend and descend the lack of toilet facilities is an understandable health concern. Others have highlighted that the closure of your building may discourage people from remaining hydrated during their climb, due to their acknowledgement that they will be unable to access public toilets, thus potentially seeing climbers becoming seriously dehydrated whilst visiting Snowdon.

Finally, I am aware that several local businesses are concerned that the closure of the summit building, and the aforementioned concerns that are associated with that decision, may reduce the number of tourists that visit this area over the coming months. Such a reduction in footfall will impact the local tourist and hospitality economy which continues to attempt to recover from the effects of the pandemic.

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Given the above, I am writing to kindly ask that you inform me why this decision to close this facility has been made. In addition to this I would ask that you inform me of what measures the Snowdonia National Park Authority can put in place to mitigate the above-mentioned concerns to ensure that the highest mountain in Wales remains accessible to all.

As always, I thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you in due course, in the meantime, please do accept my best wishes.

Kind regards,

**Janet Finch-Saunders MS/AS**