Julie James AS/MS Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol a'r Gweinidog Cyflawni Counsel General and Minister for Delivery

Eich cyf/Your ref Ein cyf/Our ref Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Mr Adam Price MS
Member for Carmarthen East and Dinefwr
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
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19 November 2024

Dear Adam,

Further to my exchange with you in the Senedd on 5 November, I undertook to write to you with further information about rent paid by Cadw to the Crown Estate.

The Crown Estate's interests in Wales are extensive. It controls the seabed out to the twelve-mile limit, manages around 65% of the foreshore and tidal riverbed, including several ports, and is responsible for over 50,000 acres of common land. The management of the Crown Estate is, therefore, a matter of considerable concern for the Welsh Government.

The UK Government has recently announced that a commissioner to represent Wales will be appointed to the Crown Estate. The commissioner will be responsible for 'providing advice on the operation of the Crown Estate in Wales, ensuring its voice is heard'.

Four historic sites — Caernarfon, Harlech and Denbigh Castles and Tintern Abbey — are owned by the Crown Estate but have been in State care for decades. Cadw, the Welsh Government's historic environment service maintains, conserves and manages the four sites and provides public access to them. Cadw pays nothing to the Crown Estate for the four historic sites. There is only one relevant agreement held by Cadw where there is a need for payment to the Crown Estate. This is an ancillary agreement covering part of the Harlech car park for which Cadw currently pays the Crown Estate annual rent of £2,833.

Yours sincerely,

Julie James AS/MS

Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol a'r Gweinidog Cyflawni Counsel General and Minister for Delivery

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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.