

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref OQ57318

Mabon ap Gwynfor MS
MS for Dwyfor Meirionnydd
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN
Mabon.ap.Gwynfor@senedd.wales

22 December 2021

Dear Mabon ap Gwynfor MS,

Thank you for your question at the plenary session of 8 December concerning coastal erosion in your constituency. You were seeking assurances that the relevant government bodies are undertaking the work necessary to safeguard life and property.

I can confirm that managing the risks associated with coastal erosion is a high priority for the Welsh Government. Evidence suggests that around 400 properties could be at risk from coastal erosion over the next 100 years across Wales, and the Welsh Government funds Coastal Local Authorities to develop schemes which help to manage that risk.

Gwynedd Council and Natural Resources Wales are the Risk Management Authorities responsible for managing the risk of coastal erosion in your constituency, including the community of Nefyn. As you mentioned in your question, the location is at high risk of landslides, and was subject to a recent cliff-fall event.

Risk Management Authorities must consider the Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs) when considering any interventions to reduce the risk of coastal erosion. SMPs are produced by Coastal Groups consisting of Local Authorities, Natural Resources Wales and other bodies with coastal interests such as National Trust and Network Rail. Whilst SMPs are non-statutory documents, the Welsh Government expects them to be used in both local and strategic decision making.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Gohebiaeth.Julie.James@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Julie.James@gov.Wales

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.

Funding for capital schemes which reduce the risk of coastal erosion is available through our Flood and Coastal Risk Management Programme. However, it is not possible to prevent all coastal erosion, or defend every section of coastline. It is for Risk Management Authorities, such as Gwynedd and Natural Resources Wales, to determine which locations are prioritised for coastal risk management schemes. Any proposals submitted to Welsh Government must meet eligibility criteria set out in our programme guidance and demonstrate they provide value for money.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie James". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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