## Ken Skates AM/AC Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi a'r Seilwaith Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure



Ein cyf/Our ref EH/01261/16

Welsh Government

Chair **Petitions Committee** 

committeebusiness@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Chair

Thank you for your further letter of 1 February regarding petition P-04-658 to safeguard the Brimmon Oak in relation to the A483 Newtown bypass.

The permanent badger resistant fencing will not be aligned along the boundary of the Compulsory Purchase Order as shown on the Made Orders. It will now be located at the toe of the low embankment along the new carriageway. In addition to this, the specification of the fence over this length will be changed so that the buried mesh will be omitted. This approach will maximise the distance of the fencing from the tree and minimise any impact on the root system.

Our project team were aware of the registration of the tree with the Woodland Trust and had commissioned a separate assessment of the tree.

My officials have informed me that the work will be on the outer 3m of the root protection zone to construct the highway verge and the low embankment. Much of the work being undertaken is by hand, but where plant machinery is required it will be small and light. The working area will be restricted to a minimum and suitable barriers will be maintained to ensure protection of the root zone. The contractor and his staff are experienced with this kind of work and will do so in accordance to the method statement and under the supervision of the Environmental Clerk of Works.

Ken Skates AM/AC

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi a'r Seilwaith Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure

Your ever,

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay Caerdydd • Cardiff

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre: 0300 0604400 Correspondence.Ken.Skates@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.