Carl Sargeant AC/AM Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gymunedau a Phlant Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children



Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-742 Ein cyf/Our ref CS/00134/17

Mike Hedges AM Chair - Petitions Committee National Assembly for Wales Ty Hywel Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1NA

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Dear Mike

Thank you for your letter of 24 January following your receipt of Petition P-05-742 "Stop Forsythia Closing".

I appreciate the concern of the young people and workers who have signed the petition but, when I made my statement on resilient communities on 11 October, I made clear I wanted to look at whether Communities First is still the most effective and appropriate way to tackle poverty and deliver for communities across Wales. In my statement, I also signalled the start of a broad programme of engagement to gather people's views on building resilient communities. An important part of the engagement has been to consider the possible impact of any potential future decisions on people, communities and community buildings and we have therefore gathered detailed assessments from our Communities First Lead Delivery Bodies.

The first part of the engagement programme, relating to the future of Communities First, closed on 15 January. After analysis of the responses, I will be making another statement in shortly.

Yours sincerely

Carl Sargeant AC/AM

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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.