

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-744
Ein cyf/Our ref CS/00181/17

Mike Hedges AM
Chair - Petitions Committee

government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk

 February 2017

Dear Mike

Thank you for your letter of 31 January seeking my views on the issues raised within the petition of Victoria Bridle, "Petition P-05-744 Stop Gazumping; Follow Scotland's Buying Process".

In terms of the context, in Scotland, unlike Wales, properties are predominantly sold by solicitors rather than by estate agents. Solicitors there are bound by the rules of the Law Society of Scotland and, in an attempt to ensure that the Scottish property market was not blighted by the problems of gazumping, all solicitor firms are bound to follow the Society's Anti-Gazumping rules. This system is favoured by Scotland as it keeps incidents of gazumping at a very low level.

Home buying and selling matters, however, are not devolved to the Welsh Government, they remain the responsibility of the UK Government. The Committee may, therefore, wish to consider advising Ms Bridle that she should send her petition to the UK Government for consideration. In so doing, you may wish to advise her that the responsible Department within the UK Government is:

The Department for Communities and Local Government,
Fry Building,
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

Yours sincerely,

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

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

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

Gohebiaeth.Carl.Sargeant@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Carl.Sargeant@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.