

14th November, 2011

Abigail Phillips
Clerk to the Petitions Committee
The National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff CF99 1NA

Dear Ms Phillips

Re: The Establishment of a Welsh International Cricket Team

Glamorgan County Cricket Club ("Glamorgan") was founded in 1888 and is Wales' only professional cricket team. Glamorgan Cricket is a member of the England & Wales Cricket Board ("ECB") and plays in 3 competitions each season – the LV County Championship (4 day competition), the CB40 (40-over competition) and Friends Life t20 (20-over competition).

The following views are provided by Glamorgan Cricket in response to the questions raised in the petition relating to the establishment of a Welsh International Cricket Team.

1. Do you feel that the action called for is reasonable and/or feasible?

The action called for is neither reasonable nor feasible and is not supported by Glamorgan Cricket.

All Welsh cricketers should aspire to play for Glamorgan – Wales' only professional cricket team – where the playing standards are far higher than any that would be attained by the formation of a Welsh cricket team. Welsh cricketers also have the opportunity through playing for Glamorgan to reach the pinnacle of the professional game, to play international cricket at both Test match and one day cricket against the very best.

In September 2011, the ECB confirmed that Glamorgan Cricket will be staging a further 17 days of international cricket over the next 5 years, including another Ashes Test match in 2015.

It is worth highlighting that Glamorgan Cricket's home, the SWALEC Stadium, was specifically re-developed in 2008 at a cost of £15m to host international matches. The loan funding was provided by a number of different organisations, including Cardiff City Council.

Furthermore, through the staging of an Ashes Test match in 2009, Glamorgan Cricket was the catalyst behind the Welsh Government's decision to form its Major Events Unit, which has the support from all of the Welsh political parties and is designed to attract high profile events to the Principality, during these challenging economic times.

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Mae croeso i unrhyw un sy'n dymuno gwneud i ohebu a ni drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg
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3. What are the barriers to establishing a Welsh international cricket team?

From our perspective, a Welsh international cricket team would lead to the demise of Glamorgan Cricket. The loss of Wales' only professional cricket team would have a devastating effect on the health of the game in Wales.

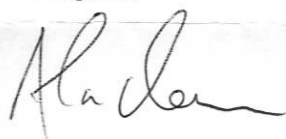
4. Should the ECB team play home games in Wales? What are the arguments for and against this?

They have done so for many years, raising the profile of Welsh cricket on a global scale. Nearly every international played in Cardiff since 2006 has sold out, with Welsh based supporters accounting for the majority.

The 2009 Ashes Test match played in Cardiff has had a considerable impact on increasing cricket participation numbers throughout Wales and the 2015 Ashes Test match will act as a catalyst for increased funding earmarked to further develop cricket in the Principality.

To summarise therefore, Glamorgan Cricket does not support any moves to establish a Welsh Cricket team – should you have any queries in relation to this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards



Alan Hamer
Chief Executive Officer