



Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-539
Ein cyf/Our ref KS/00771/17

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

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26 April 2017

Dear Mike

Thank you for your letter of 23 February 2017, regarding Petition P-04-539 Save Cardiff Coal Exchange. You have asked on behalf of the petitioner whether the Welsh Ministers would consider calling a public inquiry to investigate the events surrounding the re-development of the Coal Exchange.

Welsh Ministers can call in any planning application and, should they consider it necessary, hold a public inquiry as part of their consideration of the called in application. However, once planning permission is granted there is no longer a planning application for the Welsh Ministers to call in. Cardiff City Council granted planning permission for the change of use of the Coal Exchange building to a hotel and nominated ancillary uses on 15 July 2016. It is no longer possible, therefore, to call in the application and the permission has established the use of the building in planning terms.

Cardiff City Council is currently considering an application by Coal Exchange Limited for listed building consent (ref: 16/02939/MJR) for the phase 1 works associated with the change of use to provide 170 no. hotel suites with associated uses, including reception, function space, heritage zone, restaurant/bars, spa and circulation and at the Coal Exchange. It is also possible for the Welsh Ministers to consider calling in an application for listed building consent, however no requests to do so have been received by them. It is very rare for the Welsh Ministers to call in a listed building application and will only do so where, in their view, it raises issues of exceptional significance or controversy or is linked to a planning application that has been called in. The Welsh Ministers will not call in an application because of concerns about the way in which it has been handled by the Local Planning Authority as there are established routes for handling such concerns through the authority's Monitoring Officer and the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales.

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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.

I understand the application for listed building consent has been referred to Cadw by Cardiff City Council for consideration and it is due to provide advice to the Council on 28 April. I will provide you with a further response to your letter once Cadw has concluded its consideration of the listed building consent application referred to above.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken', written in a cursive style.

Ken Skates AC/AM

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