



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Your ref: P-05-824
Our ref: KS/01562/18

David John Rowlands AM
Chair
Petitions Committee

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

Dear David,

30 June 2018

Thank you for your letter of 23 May regarding Petition P-05-824: Newtown Brimmon Oak Bypass.

I fully acknowledge the positive public interest in the Brimmon Oak that has been generated by the petitioners, Mervyn Lloyd Jones and Rob McBride. I congratulate them on achieving the award of the Welsh and UK tree of the Year as well as coming second in Europe Tree of the Year contest in 2017.

However having carefully considered the request to rename the Newtown Bypass, I do not think 'Newtown Brimmon Oak Bypass' would be the most appropriate way to recognise the tree.

I'm also aware of other requests to rename the bypass being made with the view to promoting and recognising Newtown's history. With this in mind, the name 'Newtown Bypass' will remain but I would like Newtown Town Council to consult with local people on what they'd like to propose for any additional promotion of the Newtown area. We have already consulted successfully and agreed the tourism signing on the bypass with the Town Council and see this as an additional opportunity to recognise local interest or history. Options could potentially include junction naming on the bypass or provision of information boards at the lay-bys that form part of the bypass.

Once I have a preferred list of options that have been consulted on locally, I'd be happy to consider further.

*Yours ever,
Ken*

Ken Skates AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth
Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport

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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.