

**From:** {Information redacted}

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 3:34 PM

**To:** Correspondence mail - HB

**Cc:** {Information redacted} (Special Adviser) {Information redacted}

**Subject:** Invitation to visit Ynys-hir woodlands

Dear Minister,

During questions to the Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning & Rural Affairs in plenary on 17<sup>th</sup> January I noticed that you expressed an interest in visiting examples of community woodlands in order to see best practice first-hand.

**In response to this I would like to invite you to visit the RSPB's Ynys-hir reserve, where we are working in partnership to demonstrate the value a well-managed woodland can deliver for biodiversity, as well as local communities.**

Located on the Dyfi Estuary at the heart of the Dyfi Biosphere, the highly varied landscape includes some of the most important woodlands in Wales, designated for the rare woodland habitats found here as well as wildlife they support.

Featuring on Springwatch raised the profile of Ynys-hir and has made it a must see site for tourists to Wales, bringing in vital tourism economy to the area, and raising the profile of the important habitats found there. Over the last few years we have also worked with a number of local organisations on the wider community benefits provided by the site.

Coed Lleol previously ran regular walking sessions and activities in Ynys-hir for people with a variety of conditions, some recovering from physical as well as mental illness, others who had been suffering from loneliness or isolation and lack of confidence. We also work with MIND Aberystwyth, where they bring groups into the Ynys-hir woodlands to explore the wildlife of the woods, and have recently been working with a group looking at Eco therapy in the Dyfi Biosphere, bringing together health practitioners, activity providers and organisations such as RSPB.

Please let me know if you would be interested in visiting the site, in which case I will liaise with your office to arrange a convenient date.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind Regards

{Information redacted}

Uwch Eiriolwr / Senior Advocate

**Pencadlys RSPB Cymru** Pontycastell 3, 5 - 19 Heol Ddwyreiniol y Bontfaen, Caerdydd, CF11 9AB

**Wales Headquarters** Castlebridge 3, 5 -19 Cowbridge Road East, Cardiff, CF11 9AB

**Ffôn/Tel** {Information redacted}

**Ffôn symudol/Mobile** {Information redacted}

[rspb.org.uk](http://rspb.org.uk)