

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: 28 day rule for campsites
Date: 01 November 2023 16:28:44

Dear Dawn,

I mentioned to you last week that I am seeking an update on the 28 day rule for pop-up campsites in Wales.

I have been chasing this issue by questions and in the floor of the Senedd. My pursuit of this is on behalf of several tourism operators in my constituency.

They are understandably concerned that there has been no action or policy-clarity following the consultation in Wales, whereas in England the 56 day extension (post-Covid) was consulted on and an extension of the 56 day rule agreed.

They argue that camping operators in Wales are being put at a material disadvantage, because of the difference in policy, but also because of the lack of a final decision.

For what it is worth, I can absolutely see the impediments to a blanket 56 day policy, where this may affect the peaceful enjoyment of areas such as national parks, or lead to an over-development of the accommodation offer in some areas.

But my operators are in the South Wales valleys where we need every possible opportunity to develop the tourism offer. This could be a major boon to developing the potential in our valleys. There may be other parts of Wales where that argument is equally strong.

So could I please at least ask you for a full update on when a decision will be made, and Welsh Government response to the consultation published. The policy limbo is adding to the frustration of my tourism operators locally.

The previous responses I have had have been only holding responses. There may be a capacity issue within Welsh Government, but truly, this needs a ministerial decision one way or the other.

Thanks for your help in advance Dawn, and if you could respond in a way I can forward to my constituents, who are trying to plan ahead for the next season, and regard themselves disadvantaged compared to England operators at this moment.

My kind regards,

Huw

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