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The Rt Hon Sir Keir Starmer MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA

June 2025

Dear Prime Minister,

RE: Notice of Motion regarding the Devolution of the Crown Estate in Wales.

At the last meeting of Full Council, Members of Rhondda Cynon Taf Council supported a Notice of Motion requesting that I write to you to express this Council's support for the Welsh Government's calls to devolve the assets and revenue of the Crown Estate in Wales to the Welsh Government.

For almost a decade, Scotland has successfully managed its devolved share of the Crown Estate, with clear and positive outcomes. However, as things stand in Wales, revenues generated from Welsh natural resources – including offshore wind, seabed rights, and landholdings – continue to flow directly into the UK Treasury.

While we appreciate the funding Wales receives from the UK Treasury through the Barnett Formula, and particularly the fact that Wales received its best settlement in at least 14 years in the recent Budget, Members were of the view that any profits generated from Welsh lands and waters should be reinvested directly back into Wales. Especially given the significant presence the Crown Estate holds in Wales, with over 65% of the nation's foreshore and riverbeds, and more than 50,000 acres of land contained within.

Cross-party representatives from this Council, and indeed across the Senedd, are of the shared view that devolving responsibility for the Crown Estate in Wales to the Welsh Government would provide an invaluable opportunity to deliver more targeted investment in line with Welsh priorities, whilst simultaneously providing opportunities to address economic inequalities, and ensure that decisions about Welsh resources are made in Wales.

We therefore urge the UK Government to engage in constructive dialogue with the Welsh Government to facilitate the devolution of the Crown Estate to Wales and afford Wales the same opportunities as Scotland.

Thank you for consideration on this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Morgan OBE
Arweinydd ac Aelod o'r Cabinet ar faterion Isadeiledd a Buddsoddi
Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Investment

Cynghorydd y Fwrdeistref Sirol dros Ward Aberpennar
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